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COUNTRY LIFE

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COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE
AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

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Electric light.
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STABLING.
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(Knight, Frank and Rutley's advertisements continued on page iii.)

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Facing south, overlooking the Downs.

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SMALL HOME FARM. TWO FARMS LET.
FOURTEEN COTTAGES.

Full particulars from the Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W.1.

DENHAM—BUCKS

SOUTH ASPECT OVERLOOKING GOLF COURSE.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

A MODERN GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.



TWO GARAGES,
ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER. CO'S WATER.
MODERN DRAINAGE.

Fifteen minutes from station.
Inspected and strongly recommended by HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square,
S.W.1. (B 38,610.)

CENTRAL HEATING.

ABOUT TWO ACRES.

BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS.

£3,750

IS ALL THAT IS ASKED FOR THIS FINE COUNTRY RESIDENCE,
together with
LODGE, GARAGE, STABLING, FARMERY, TWO COTTAGES, AND ABOUT
EIGHTEEN AND A-HALF ACRES.

situate high up on gravel
soil with magnificent views
in probably the

MOST BEAUTIFUL PART OF KENT.

Hall, four reception and
thirteen bedrooms, two
baths, complete offices, all
in first-rate order with
modern conveniences.

Delightful grounds, inex-
pensive to maintain, lawn,
kitchen garden, orchard and
grass.



THIS EXCEEDINGLY LOW FIGURE IS QUOTED FOR THE FREEHOLD WITH
THE IDEA OF ENSURING AN IMMEDIATE SALE.

For particulars apply the Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W.1.
(K 44,185.)

BERKHAMSTED

HUNTING WITH THE OLD BERKELEY AND HERTFORDSHIRE. CLOSE TO GOLF LINKS.

600ft. up on gravel and sand soil, with extensive views.

Conveniently near to first-class schools.

FOR SALE.

THIS VERY CHOICE
FREEHOLD RESIDENCE.EXCEPTIONALLY WELL BUILT,
ADMIRABLY ARRANGED,
EXPENSIVELY FITTED.

ENTRANCE AND STAIRCASE HALL
21ft. by 12ft.
LOUNGE 30ft. by 18ft.
DRAWING ROOM 19ft. by 17ft. 6in.

PARQUET FLOORING TO
ABOVE.

Agents, HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W.1. (R. 1597.)

ONE MILE FROM AN OLD-WORLD TOWN IN

WILTSHIRE

FINE STONE BUILT HOUSE

OF RELATIVELY MODERN CONSTRUCTION IN THE TUDOR STYLE.



Hard and grass tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, orchard and grassland.

OVER 40 ACRES.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

Inspected and strongly recommended by

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W.1. (B 39,980.)

CHARMING SMALL HOUSE WITH GOOD ROOMS
AND A MOST DELIGHTFUL GARDEN.

FOR SALE CHEAP.
PRICE £2,950, FREEHOLD.
OR WOULD BE LET ON LEASE

The feature of the House is
a very fine
DRAWING ROOM,
about 25ft. by 20ft. with
oak parquet floor, window
seats, etc.; there are two
other reception rooms,
good hall with fitted cloak-
room and compact offices,
six bed and dressing rooms,
two bathrooms.

All Company's services
connected.

Tennis and badminton
lawns, good kitchen and
fruit gardens, quantities of
rose trees, etc.



GARAGE FOR TWO CARS.

THE PROPERTY is under a mile from M.E.T. station with good business trains to
City and West End, within half a mile of Harewood Downs Golf Course and 400ft above
sea level.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James's Square, S.W.1. (B 42,277.)

Offices: 20, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.1

Telephone No.:
Regent 4304.Telegraphic Address:
"Overbid-Piccy, London."

OSBORN & MERCER

"ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.I

SPECIAL NOTICE TO BUYERS

WOULD-BE BUYERS OFTEN COMPLAIN THAT THEY ARE CAUSED A LOT OF UNNECESSARY TROUBLE BY THE AVALANCHE OF PARTICULARS—THE MAJORITY QUITE UNLIKELY—which are showered on them if they make their requirements generally known. MESSRS. OSBORN & MERCER MAKE IT A SPECIAL FEATURE OF THEIR PRACTICE TO AVOID ANY GROUND FOR SUCH CRITICISM AND ARE CAREFUL NOT TO SEND APPLICANTS PARTICULARS OF ANY PLACES WHICH DO NOT REASONABLY CONFORM TO THEIR STATED WANTS.

A FORM IS APPENDED WHICH PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS ARE INVITED TO COMPLETE AND FORWARD TO 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, AND THEY MAY REST ASSURED THAT MESSRS. OSBORN & MERCER WILL ENDEAVOUR TO BE OF REAL SERVICE TO THEM WITHOUT ADDING TO THEIR COMPLEXITIES.

Districts preferred.....

Size of house and.....

Approximate area.....

Any special requirement.....

Name and address.....

FORM FOR
REQUIREMENTS

DAILY ACCESS TO TOWN

SURREY HILLS (40 minutes from Town).—Sumptuously appointed modern House with every labour-saving device. Three reception, seven bedrooms (with fitted basins), three bathrooms, servants' hall, etc. Central heating and all main services. Cottage and garage. Charming grounds and paddock.

ONLY £4,950 FREEHOLD

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,875.)

HERTS (40 minutes from London).—**XVIIth Century House**, standing 400ft. up with extensive views. Ten bedrooms. Garage, stabling and men's quarters. Charming grounds, fruit and kitchen garden, etc.

£3,500 WITH 4 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,058.)

24 MILES SOUTH (overlooking a well-known Golf Course).—Magnificent Period House in perfect order and modernised to a degree. Fine suite of reception rooms, six principal bedrooms, each with own bathroom, three other bathrooms, bachelors' and servants' bedrooms, etc. Gardens of rare charm, large garage, lodges and cottages.

REDUCED PRICE WITH 20 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,675.)

OLD SURREY FARMHOUSE about 20 miles from London and thoroughly modernised. Three reception, five bedrooms, two bathrooms. Company's water and gas, electric light. Lovely old barn, matured gardens, orchard, etc.

£3,500 WITH 2½ ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (M 1595.)

50 MINUTES SOUTH (400ft. up, with uninterrupted views to the South Downs).—Up-to-date House with four reception, twelve bedrooms and four bathrooms. Garage, stabling, five cottages and lodge. Farmhouse, etc. Fine old grounds.

110 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,849.)

BUCKS (under an hour from Town).—Interesting old House, restored and modernised, but still retaining its old-world atmosphere. Three reception, ten bedrooms and three bathrooms. Capital cottage, garage and stabling. Well-timbered gardens with hard and grass tennis courts, pasture, etc.

7 or 17 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,634.)

FURTHER AFIELD

WILTS (convenient for main line expresses).—Exquisite Jacobean House with all the period features, panelling, etc., yet possessing every modern comfort and luxury. Fine suite of reception rooms, eight principal and several servants' bedrooms, five bathrooms. Magnificent gardens in keeping with the House.

£8,500 WITH 20 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,862.)

NORFOLK (convenient for Newmarket and the Coast).—Charming old House containing five (or seven) bedrooms, mostly with lavatory basins (h. and c.). Electric light and central heating throughout. Splendid buildings. Cottage and established grounds with old meat.

£3,250 WITH 26 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,953.)

HANTS (near a favourite town).—Fine Georgian House, standing high with lovely views in beautiful old grounds and parkland. Panelled lounge hall, four reception, twelve bedrooms, four bathrooms, etc. Electric light and central heating. Several cottages and model homestead; in all nearly

200 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,939.)

GLOS, in one of the most fertile districts in the county. Comfortable small House of seven bedrooms, two bathrooms. Electric light, etc. Four cottages, splendid buildings and rich land with river frontage providing fishing and boating.

216 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,942.)

BUCKS (in a fine hunting centre).—Queen Anne House of seven bedrooms, with stabling for eight or ten horses, garage, etc. (two cottages available). Old-world gardens, kitchen garden and paddock.

£2,500 WITH 6 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (M 1599.)

WEST SUSSEX (beautiful country near the Downs and Sea).—Up-to-date Georgian House, standing in heavily timbered parklands facing south. Nine bedrooms, two bathrooms. Capital farmery, two cottages and outbuildings. All in perfect order.

50 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,735.)

LANDED ESTATES AND INVESTMENTS

HERTS BORDERS, in a good social and sporting district, 30 miles from London. Fine old XVIIth Century House of eight bedrooms, modernised. Farmhouse, extensive buildings and several cottages. The Property includes some of the best wheat-growing land in the country; is ripe for taking full advantage of the wheat quota.

£10,500 WITH 600 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,311.)

TO STOCKBREEDERS.—One of the most noted stock-raising Properties in the country with a beautiful XIIIth Century Manor House of ten bedrooms, with much valuable panelling and all modern conveniences. Exceptional buildings for a very large herd, capital farmhouse and numerous cottages.

£17,500 WITH 850 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,733.)

30 MILES FROM TOWN.—Exceptional Residential Estate, with an historical Elizabethan House seated in an extensive and beautiful park, and thoroughly up to date in its appointments. Several farms, small holdings and cottages, all in a ring fence providing excellent shooting and trout fishing.

2,000 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,722.)

£725 PER ANNUM and a delightful Early Georgian House on the edge of Dartmoor. Four reception, billiard room, six bedrooms, two bathrooms and modern conveniences. Splendid buildings. Farmhouse and a number of cottages. The land is of high quality and trout fishing and plenty of shooting is to be enjoyed.

275 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,959.)

5 PER CENT. return from an important Estate in the Eastern Counties, comprising some twelve farms, bailiff's house, small holdings, and cottages, also a fine old residence seated in an extensive park. In all nearly

3,000 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,710.)

DORSET.—Old Georgian Manor House of ten bedrooms, three bathrooms. Electric light, central heating, etc. Three farms. Several cottages, etc.

£15,000 WITH 900 ACRES

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,407.)

Telephone No.:
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines).

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778.)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1

And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq.,
45, Parliament St.,
Westminster, S.W.

MESSRS. TROLLOPE

ARE NOW ARRANGING THEIR LISTS OF FORTHCOMING

COUNTRY AND TOWN AUCTIONS

WHICH WILL BE HELD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN LONDON AND THE COUNTRY

THEY WILL BE GLAD TO HAVE AS LONG NOTICE AS POSSIBLE FROM OWNERS WHO WISH THEIR PROPERTIES INCLUDED.

Particulars of such Properties, and others for Sale by Private Treaty, will be forwarded to Applicants on receipt of a note of their requirements.

RATING AND ASSESSMENTS.

QUESTIONS OF REPAIRS ARISING UNDER LEASES AND OTHERWISE.

FIRE CLAIMS.

AUCTION SALES OF FURNITURE, ETC.

VALUATIONS FOR ESTATE DUTY, INSURANCE, COMPENSATION, AND MORTGAGE.

ESTATE AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.

DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT

MESSRS. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS DEAL WITH ABOVE AND KINDRED MATTERS. Apply to any of their offices as above.

HISTORICAL OLD TITHE BARN

of Tudor Period, converted into an up-to-date Residence with every convenience.



Waterloo 40 minutes; secluded; gravel soil; south aspect.

FINE OLD OAK BEAMS. OPEN FIREPLACES. FITTINGS IN KEEPING WITH THE HOUSE.

Eight bed, two baths, three reception rooms, galleried hall.

Electric light, good water. Garage and room.

FOUR ACRES, FREEHOLD. £3,500.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
(c 4916.)

MAGNIFICENT VIEWS. ON THE COTSWOLDS

Three-quarters of a mile from Station.



STONE-BUILT COTSWOLD RESIDENCE

Drive with lodge. Good hunting. Sixteen bed, four dressing, three baths, three reception and billiard room.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. SIX LOOSE BOXES. TWO STALLS. FIVE COTTAGES.

BEAUTIFULLY LAID-OUT GROUNDS, very fine pasture and excellent home farm, suitable for and formerly

THE HOME OF A FAMOUS PEDIGREE HERD

100 ACRES, FREEHOLD.

An adjoining farm of 70 acres can be had.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
(a 7218.)

ADJOINING GOLF COURSE

NEAR GUILDFORD.

400ft. up; facing South.



FIRST-RATE MODERN RESIDENCE

One-and-a-half miles from station: electric trains. Six bed and dressing. Bath. Three reception rooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. GAS. CO'S WATER. Tastefully laid-out gardens, three-quarters of an acre.

FOR SALE OR TO BE LET

Unfurnished or Furnished.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
(b 114.)

3, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Telephone:
Grosvenor 1032 & 1033.

NEAR HAMPSHIRE COAST

HIGH SITUATION.

GLORIOUS VIEWS.



FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, perfectly appointed FARMHOUSE-STYLE RESIDENCE; six bedrooms, two bathrooms, three reception rooms; electric light, Coy.'s water; garage; inexpensive gardens and grounds; in all about

ELEVEN ACRES.

FIRST-CLASS SALMON AND COARSE FISHING in the River Avon available. HUNTING. SHOOTING.

Owner's Agents, RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET

ATTRACTIVE PROPOSITION.—Small, easily run COUNTRY HOUSE, near Leighton Buzzard, to be LET. Furnished, from March, for six months or a year. Hunting (Whaddon Chase), golf; three reception, six bed, two bath, servants' hall and usual offices; electric light, gas, main water, gardener's cottage, stable, garage; tennis court; in all about one acre; 30 guineas per month to careful tenant.—Box 226, c/o JACKSON & CO., Leighton Buzzard.

FLATS TO LET

FLATS.—Persons who have experienced the charm of a modern building, composed of well-designed flats, realise the immense advantages over old converted buildings. The owner of a newly-erected block, one minute from Regent Street and Portland Place, has two small flats, ideal in all respects, at rentals of £128 PER ANNUM, including central heating and constant hot water. Service 2/- per diem. Exquisite cuisine at very moderate charges.

Mr. FRASER, 17, New Cavendish Street, W.1. Langham 3714, after 10 a.m.

EXECUTORS' SACRIFICE.

BETWEEN CANTERBURY AND THE COAST

ON HIGH GROUND. WELL SHELTERED AND WITH PRETTY OUTLOOK.



An exceedingly well-appointed RESIDENCE, having central heating, electric lighting, h. and c. water in bedrooms, etc., and containing eight bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, lounge, dining, drawing and ante rooms, capital offices. Charmingly displayed GROUNDS, FIRST-RATE GARAGE, and THREE GOOD COTTAGES.

IN ALL 54 ACRES.

Recommended from inspection by the Agents, RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

SOMERSET

A favourite residential district, beautiful surroundings.

UNIQUE XVTH CENTURY MANOR with William and Mary front. Eight bed, two bath, three reception rooms and up-to-date offices.

Central heating, electricity, water by gravitation, modern septic tank drainage, telephone, stable, garage, farmbuildings.

DELIGHTFUL OLD-WORLD GARDENS, beautifully laid out, also orchard, etc.; in all

THREE ACRES.

LEASE AT £100 PER ANNUM FOR DISPOSAL AT NOMINAL FIGURE.

Sole Agents,

NORFOLK & PRIOR, 14, Hay Hill, London, W.1

LAND, ESTATES AND OTHER PROPERTIES WANTED

WANTED (within 30-40 miles south to south-west of London), medium-sized HOUSE OF CHARACTER, with eight to twelve bedrooms, three reception rooms; all modern conveniences, together with a flat stretch of land, 100 square yards or so, suitable for landing an aeroplane, therefore flat and open country essential.—Send particulars and photographs to E. C. L. 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.

SHOOTINGS, FISHINGS, &c.

TROUT FISHING WANTED.—To RENT for coming season or on Lease for longer period; within, say, 75 miles London; with cottage or other acceptable accommodation consisting least two bedrooms. Give full particulars of fishing and accommodation. Suggest preliminary meeting in London to discuss. Would consider proposition from Resident Owner. Fishing and accommodation would not be abused in any way whatever.—Box 481, L.P.E., 110, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

FREE WILDFOWL SHOOTING.—Wild geese, ducks, etc.—Write G. TODD, Wells, Norfolk.

Telephone :
Grosvenor 3131.

Telegrams :
"Submit, London."

CURTIS & HENSON LONDON

COMPACT SPORTING ESTATE WITH OLD RED-BRICK GEORGIAN HOUSE BEAUTIFUL PART OF BERKSHIRE. ONLY 40 MINUTES' EXPRESS RAIL

FINE SITUATION IN WELL-TIMBERED PARK on RISING GROUND with SOUTHERLY ASPECTS over BEAUTIFUL PANORAMA.

Protected by woodland on north.

Three drives with lodges. The accommodation is excellently arranged and in first-class order, and ALL ON TWO FLOORS. Sun lounge, sitting hall, Adam drawing room, dining room, library, garden hall.

All on one floor are eleven principal bed and dressing rooms, three tiled bathrooms, five staff bedrooms and fourth bathroom.

LAVATORY BASINS IN BEDROOMS. POLISHED OAK FLOORS.

CENTRAL HEATING.

ELECTRICITY FROM PRIVATE PLANT.

UNFAILING WATER SUPPLY.

NEW SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE.



The Total Area Extends to about 500 ACRES, which with additional rented land FORMS A FIRST-CLASS SHOOT. Close to first-class golf.
AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-FOUND PROPERTY.

Very highly recommended.—Views and particulars from the Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. I.

REQUIRED TO PURCHASE

within about 30 miles south, south-west or south-east of London, MUST STAND HIGH AND BE EASILY ACCESSIBLE, a well-appointed MODERN HOUSE, with lounge, three reception, seven or eight bedrooms. Eight to ten acres. Price £3,400.

Particulars to "V. W." CURTIS & HENSON,

5, Mount Street, W. I.

EXECUTORS' SALE TO CLOSE ESTATE.

30 MINUTES' RAIL WATERLOO

Ideal property for business man, in midst of FIRST-CLASS GOLF, finely timbered surroundings, perfectly secluded.

THOROUGHLY UP-TO-DATE MODERN

HOUSE of pleasing appearance, facing south; sitting hall, dining room, large drawing room, very convenient offices, seven bedrooms (four with washbasins), two bathrooms; CO.'S SERVICES for ELECTRICITY, WATER and GAS; central heating, main drainage; large garage.

AN ACRE OF DELIGHTFUL GARDENS.

PRICE REDUCED

Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. I.

HORSHAM AND PULBOROUGH

Two miles from station. Fourteen miles from sea. FINE VIEWS EXTENDING TO SOUTH DOWNS.

DISTINCTIVE HOUSE, resembling a Manor

House of the Tudor Period, with stone mullioned windows and slab roof. Every convenience, oak paneling and floors, oak-beamed ceilings, open fireplaces. Fine position in centre of well-timbered parklands, two drives. Four rec., ten bed, three bath; electric light, independent hot water, abundant water, modern drainage, telephone. Garage, two cottages. Lovely grounds of old-world charm, tennis court, well-stocked kitchen garden, lawns, fine timber and parkland; over

140 ACRES.

PRICE CONSIDERABLY REDUCED.

Hunting, shooting and golf.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. I.

ONLY 25 MILES FROM HYDE PARK

By excellent road; 300ft. above sea; old-world surroundings

UNUSUALLY CHARMING OLD PERIOD

HOUSE, of mellowed red brick and Queen Anne, beautifully timbered park; long drive with lodge. Four rec., half-baked, sixteen bed, two bath; central heating, telephone, excellent water; stabling, garages, home farm, six cottages; exceptionally beautiful grounds, lawns, walled kitchen gardens, meadowland, etc.

TO LET, UNFURNISHED, AT LOW RENT

About 1,000 acres of excellent shooting can also be had. Very highly recommended. Excellent golf, hunting, fishing, etc.—CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. I.

OLD SUSSEX MANOR HOUSE. 600 FEET UP ON SAND ROCK SOIL.

ONE OF THE FINEST SITUATIONS IN THIS FAVOURITE LOCALITY.

FINE PANORAMIC VIEWS.
PERFECT SECLUSION.
LONG DRIVE.

THE HOUSE is constructed of old stone and brick with Horsham slab roof. The accommodation

ALL ON TWO FLOORS

includes hall, lounge, dining room, drawing room, morning room, library, model offices, seven principal beds, three bathrooms, five or more secondary bedrooms and bathroom.

EXCELLENT GARAGE AND STABLING.

FOR SALE AT STRICTLY REASONABLE PRICE, OR TO BE LET FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED

Strongly recommended from personal knowledge.—Particulars and views from the Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. I.

ARRESTINGLY APPEALING REPLICA FACING SOUTH OVER ASHDOWN FOREST



ABUNDANT WATER.
ELECTRIC LIGHT.
CENTRAL HEATING.
INDEPENDENT HOT WATER SYSTEM.
SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE.

THE GARDENS,
ACTUALLY BOUNDED BY THE FOREST, ARE A FEATURE,

yet economically maintained. A broad paved terrace overlooks lawns, herbaceous borders, rock garden, rhododendron and grass walks, EX-TOUT-CAS TENNIS COURT, kitchen garden and glass. The remainder is grassland. About

SIXTEEN ACRES, FREEHOLD.
FIRST-CLASS GOLF.

Telephone: Regent 4206.
Telegrams "Cornishmen, London."

TRESIDDER & CO.

37, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.1.

£180 PER ANNUM OR FOR SALE.
HERTS (easy daily reach London; 10 minutes station, 400ft. up, gravel soil).—Attractive RESIDENCE well back from road, lodge at entrance; lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, bathroom. Every modern convenience; 2 garages, stabling; well-timbered grounds, tennis and other lawns, rose garden, rockeries, orchard, grassland; in all **ABOUT 10 ACRES.**

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W.1. (11,447.)

£180 PER ANNUM, OR WOULD BE SOLD.
1,500-2,500 acres of shooting (optional).

SUFFOLK HOUSE: 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc.; all modern conveniences; garage, useful outbuildings. Charming old gardens, tennis lawn, lily pond, walled kitchen garden, woodland and grassland; in all nearly **9 ACRES.**

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W.1. (7860.)

S. BEDS (39 miles London).—**XVII CENTURY RESIDENCE**, with old oak paneling and other characteristic features. Billiard and 2 reception rooms, bathroom, 6 or 7 bedrooms; 2 good cottages, stabling, farmery; tennis court, kitchen garden and excellent grassland.

PRICE £1,500, HOUSE AND GROUNDS, or £3,000 WITH 32 ACRES.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W.1. (16,365.)

PRICE ONLY £2,900. OPEN TO OFFER.
SUSSEX DOWNS (commanding magnificent views).

OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE.
3 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Co.'s water, gas, telephone, central heating, electricity, main drainage.

Old-fashioned partly walled gardens.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W.1. (16,329.)

VERY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

SHELTERED ANCHORAGE.



Details of Sole Agents, TRESIDDER & CO.

Strongly recommended. LOW PRICE, FREEHOLD.

S. OXON HUNT.—Particularly attractive RESIDENCE, in excellent order throughout. Hall, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 7-8 bedrooms. Co.'s electricity and water, central heating, telephone, constant hot water.

GOOD STABLING. GARAGES.

Charming grounds of about 2½ acres with tennis lawn and orchard.

INTERSECTED BY SMALL TROUT STREAM.

More land can be rented.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W.1. (16,161.)

EXCEPTIONAL YACHTING FACILITIES.

Private beach, 2 boathouses, slip.

S. CORNISH COAST (overlooking Falmouth Harbour; secluded and sheltered, beautiful views).—For SALE at VERY REASONABLE PRICE, a delightful GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, all modern conveniences, in excellent order.

Broad corridor hall, 4 good reception, 3 bathrooms, 15 bed and dressing rooms.

Electric light, central heating, telephone, excellent water.

GARAGES. STABLING. STAFF ROOMS.

Beautifully timbered and shrubbed grounds, in which sub-tropical plants abound. Tennis, kitchen garden, orchard and

LONG FRONTAGE TO ESTUARY.
Excellent farm, including farmhouse, cottage and farmbuildings.

25 OR 70 ACRES.

25 OR 70 ACRES.

PRICE £2,000.

RENT, UNFURNISHED, £100 PER ANNUM.
ROSS-ON-WYE (4 miles; excellent sporting centre). An attractive STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE, 200ft. above sea level, in excellent order.

Hall, 3 reception, bathroom, 8 bedrooms. Electric light, telephone, central heating. Stabling. Garage.

Well laid-out grounds with tennis court, walled kitchen garden, orchard, etc.; in all

3½ ACRES.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W.1. (16,251.)

ESTATE OFFICES,
RUGBY.
18, BENNETT'S HILL,
BIRMINGHAM.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK
LONDON, RUGBY, OXFORD AND BIRMINGHAM

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE,
LONDON, S.W.1.
140, HIGH ST., OXFORD,
AND CHIPPING NORTON.

OXFORDSHIRE

On the foothills of the Cotswolds, and in a most delightful rural district, under half an hour by car from Oxford. A XVTH CENTURY RESIDENCE of exceptional beauty, built of stone, carefully modernised and in splendid order throughout.

THREE SITTING ROOMS (one 35ft. by 15ft.), SIX OR SEVEN BEDROOMS, BATH ROOM.

Electric light and central heating; tennis lawn, kitchen garden, etc.

A most reasonable price will be accepted for the freehold.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 12,613.)

WEST SUSSEX

Close to the Downs and in a good social district. BEAUTIFUL OLD MANOR HOUSE, of historical interest, in splendid order and modernised. Hall, with oak beams, three other sitting rooms, seven bedrooms, two bathrooms, and excellent domestic offices. Company's water, main electricity supply, septic tank drainage. Stabling and garage. Lovely old gardens and grounds with tennis lawn, orchard, etc. Total area about FOUR ACRES (up to 100 acres may be had).

PRICE FREEHOLD, £4,600.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 12,575.)

WILTSHIRE

In a district where fishing can be had, also hunting, shooting and golf.

£2,750 (OR NEAR OFFER) FREEHOLD.—

Delightful stone-built COUNTRY RESIDENCE, high situation, south aspect, beautiful views, and adjacent to village; 20 minutes by car to junction under one-and-a-half hours to London; hall with fireplace, three sitting rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom, boxroom; central heating, independent hot water, electric light available, telephone; large garage. Charming garden with tennis lawn and TWELVE ACRES of grassland (Let for £30). JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R. 12,509.)

A REAL COUNTRY HOUSE AND TWO ACRES WITHIN 30 TO 40 MINUTES OF TOWN.

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Electric light, Central heating, Radiators throughout, Ample water, etc.

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SEVENTEEN ACRES
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FOR SALE,
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DISTANT VIEWS ARE ENJOYED FROM THE PROPERTY.

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Near station, with electric service to London, which is about 26 miles by road.

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ELECTRIC LIGHTING PLANT.

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT.

GARAGE.

CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS. Tennis court, fruit and vegetable gardens ; the whole extending to an area of about

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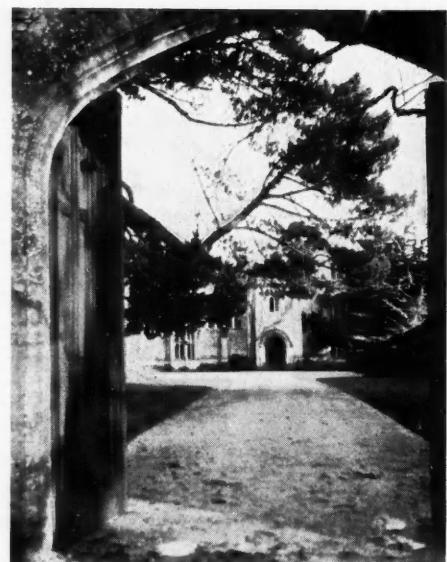


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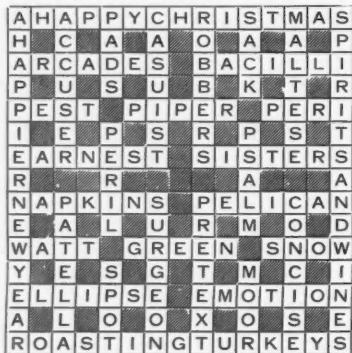


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SOLUTION to No. 152.
The clues for this appeared in December 24th issue.



ACROSS.

1. Am parting to find a bird.
6. Implied.
9. Perhaps it was this that frightened Miss Muffet.
10. The Lily Maid of Astolat has lost her tail.
11. A public school.
12. Proverbially meet when plural.
13. A German spa.
14. The head of the staff.
17. A young male hawk.
19. The full name of a French port.
22. Every lady is one just before Christmas.
24. A route indication.
25. Otto, for instance.
26. Black, but seldom comely.
29. Very cold, but beheaded.
30. One of many at the R.A. on varnishing day.
31. You can get this canine ailment from 14 across.
32. Charms.

DOWN.

1. Part of a flower.
2. An early Biblical character.
3. Cook is often found doing this on Mondays.
4. Hardly a cheerful giver.
5. Anything but far away.
6. A supporter.
7. Very acceptable at a garden party.
8. Many an R.E. was a this in the War.
14. The good time coming.
15. A king of Judah's name for the brasen serpent.
16. At the tip of the blade.
18. A racial termination.
20. One way of spelling a great Old Master.
21. We hope to see this conquered this year.
22. What Shakespeare's schoolboy carried.
23. A very common object in London streets.
27. Part of a German Duchy.
28. Lace of sorts.

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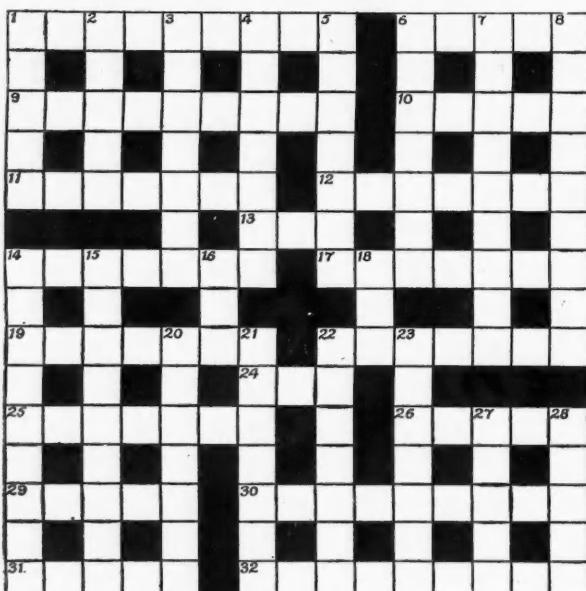
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PROSPECTS of PEDIGREE STOCK

PEDIGREE STOCK PROSPECTS IN 1933.—No year within living memory has been worse than 1932. Livestock, which has been regarded for so long as the backbone of British agriculture, has failed in the period of crisis. This is true of cattle, sheep and pigs, so that it has been difficult to find any bright features. Most breeders are awaiting anxiously for the turn of the tide, which events lead one to assume is due immediately. It is a point of some significance that prices during December were on the up-grade, and that farmers have become more optimistic as to the future. There will be very few who can look back with any pleasure to farming experiences during the last twelve months, so that the changed outlook is significant as a pointer of better times. It must be recognised, however, that, although legislation is probably responsible for immediate improvements, no permanent satisfaction can be secured until the industry as a whole is completely overhauled with regard to its entire control and organisation. Many of our past troubles have been due to the inability of farmers as a body to combine to safeguard their own interests. This is a matter which can only be cured with the spread of education and the use of a measure

to leave little to choose between some breeds, but there are still wide differences between other breeds. (3) The breed should definitely appeal to the prospective breeder. It is little use breeding without a personal love for the breed in which one is interested. This is often the leading factor in successful pedigree stock breeding, and outweighs all other points. Pedigree stock breeding is no longer the gamble it used to be. One can judge of this from the assertion of one famous breeder that "proved sires only are used in the herd." The extent to which this practice is growing is noted on all sides and among many differing classes of livestock. Thus even in pigs the question of strain is receiving much attention among breeders. The pen of pork pigs which supplied the N.P.B.A.'s champion animal at their contest last month was bred from a strain which had done well in similar competitions in Scotland and which was acquired by a young English breeder to repeat similar successes in this country. It must, therefore, be recognised that successful breeding is not merely a question of breed, but largely of strain within a particular breed. This is already obvious to existing breeders and does much to explain the significance of fashion when



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of compulsion. Pedigree stock breeders are already well trained in the matter of control. Membership of a herd, flock or stud book society implies that there will be strict adherence to the laws and regulations of the society. The penalty of expulsion from membership for lack of loyalty to the interests concerned is a serious matter, and, fortunately, it says much for the honesty of our breeders as a whole that very few cases occur. The chances of price appreciation in pedigree stock must depend upon the revival in world trade as a whole. To this extent pedigree and commercial stock farming are on the same footing. There never was a time when it was easier to lay the foundations of high-class pedigree stock farming at a lower cost than now, and this in itself should appeal to every young man who is taking up farming to-day. The immediate prospects may not seem so rosy as they might be, but there will be a change, and one can confidently assert that bed rock has been reached in the matter of prices. The principal dilemma in which most prospective breeders find themselves concerns the choice of a breed. There are certain fundamental rules which can be summarised as a guide. These are: (1) Due weight should be given to the breed most popular in the district in which it is proposed to farm. This is an important advantage in that surplus stock will then usually meet with a better demand in the local markets. Environmental factors are often responsible for the dominance of certain breeds in special localities. (2) The breed should possess sound economic properties. The measure of improvement in most breeds is such as

strains become generally recognised as good. In this manner pedigree stock breeding is associated with hidden difficulties not always seen by the newcomer to a breed. There is a further development which holds out prospects of success in that there is a growing tendency to judge breeds on their capacity for high output as distinct from low output of very high excellence. Too often the individual animal of outstanding merit as a show specimen fails to give a satisfactory account of itself in the breeding sphere. This is definitely unprofitable, and considerable attention is being paid to this side, both in pigs and sheep.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE PREMIUM BULLS.—The value set upon the shorthorn as an improver is illustrated by the latest annual return published by the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended March 31st, 1932. Out of 1,454 premiums in force, shorthorns claimed no fewer than 795, as against 659 allocated to all other breeds of cattle combined. The shorthorn's nearest competitors were Herefords with 193 premiums, Devons with 185, and Lincoln Red shorthorns with 162; while—with the exception of the Welsh Blacks and the Guernseys—no other breed reached double figures.

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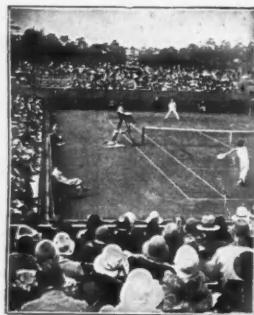


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COUNTRY LIFE

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 7th, 1933.

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
OUR FRONTISPICE : THE LAST MEET OF THE VINE HUNT IN 1932	I
LOOKING AHEAD. (Leader)	2
COUNTRY NOTES	3
QUESTIONS AND ANSWER, by Phyllis Mégroz	3
THE TREE, by Thomas J. Wood	4
FAIRY TALES AND THEIR COUNTRIES : THE DARTMOOR	5
AT THE THEATRE : THE DECLINE OF PANTOMIME, by George Warrington	8
LARGE FIELDS AT THE HOLIDAY MEETS	9
THE BLACK-THROATED DIVER, by Frances Pitt	10
SOME ANTICIPATED JOYS, by Bernard Darwin	11
MARKETING OF FAT STOCK, by G. H. Nevile	12
CONTRACT BRIDGE, by Captain Lindsay Mundy	13
THE KING'S FUND MINIATURE HOSPITAL	14
VISION, by Leonora Starr	18
OBSERVATIONS ON NATIONAL HUNT RACING	19
ENGLISH BRASSWORK IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES, by C. C. Oman	20
THE REAL EAST END ; OTHER REVIEWS	22
WINTER FEED FOR GAME BIRDS	23
CORRESPONDENCE	24
Grit for Partridges ; Electricity Supply in the Country (Sir Douglas Newton) ; For the First Time Since the Reformation (Lady Hickling) ; A Salmon in a Midland Village (Clifford W. Greatorex) ; Cormorant in a Cement Works (Geo. J. Scholey) ; A White Hare on Foulness Island (A. Laurence Wells) ; Before the Days of Baking Powder (Malcolm Castle) ; A Warning to Airmen (N. Vines) ; "The Man Loaded with Mischief" (J. J. Rhodes) ; Wadham and Merifield (W. Locke Radford) ; Waders Step Dancing (Phillippa Francklyn).	26
THE ESTATE MARKET	xviii
"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD NO. 154	xviii
PROSPECTS OF PEDIGREE STOCK	xix
THE AUTOMOBILE WORLD, by the Hon. Maynard Greville	xxii
THE TRAVELLER : WINTER SPORTS IN ITALY	xxiv
TRAVEL NOTES	xxiv
THE GARDEN : NEW AND RARE PLANTS	xxvi
THE LADIES' FIELD	xxviii
The Woollen Frock for Morning or Afternoon ; Fringe Returns to Favour ; Contrasts in the Latest Styles, by Kathleen M. Barrow.	

Looking Ahead

THE abandonment of the customary rollicking programme with which, on former occasions, the B.B.C. has welcomed in the New Year and the substitution of a more thoughtful form of salutation is significant of the altered mood in which most of us find ourselves at the beginning of 1933. These years of depression have taught us that there is no short cut out of the tangled wood, and that a return to prosperity will be a much longer and more arduous process than our first sanguine optimism allowed us to believe. Yet, even the most confirmed pessimist has to admit that our position is substantially better than it was twelve months ago. Placed as we are, it is impossible for us to say whether or not "the tide" has actually "turned"; but, at least, we can compare our situation both with what it was and with that of other countries at the present time, and when we do so we can hardly fail to detect some encouraging signs here and there of better days ahead.

One such piece of evidence, slight though it may seem, is to be found in the experience of antique dealers during the past year. Works of art are usually considered luxuries which only the rich man can afford; yet, as has more than once been pointed out in this paper, they represent a form of investment that is comparable to the highest class of trustee security. A year ago the antique market, like every other kind of market, was suffering from the prevailing uncertainty. The withdrawal of Americans from the salerooms had depleted the ranks of buyers, while those who had property to sell were holding back for a more favourable time. But the spring and summer saw a marked improvement both in the number of sales and in the prices realised,

an improvement which has been maintained down to the close of the year. This recovery, which coincided with the success of the Government's financial operations, is remarkable in showing how sensitive is the antique market to prevailing conditions and how rapidly it responds to signs of increasing confidence. It is, in fact, a pretty accurate barometer with which to gauge the general trend of conditions in the country.

One of the most notable sales of the year was the dispersal at Christie's last May of Sir John Ramsden's magnificent collection of works of art, which during the six days realised over £30,000. The collection included pictures by artists of many schools, porcelain, tapestries, carpets, and many fine pieces of English seventeenth and eighteenth century furniture, some of which were sold at very high prices. Messrs. Sotheby's also held two sales, of the first importance, at which remarkable prices were obtained. The dispersal on June 7th of the first portion of the famous Chester Beatty collection of manuscripts again brought over £30,000, which, as there were only thirty three items in the catalogue, represented an average of £1,000 per lot. Two days later a number of important pictures, coming from four private collections, realised £20,000. These included the hitherto unknown Hals, the discovery of which in Ireland was one of the notable events of the year in the art world and for which £3,600 was given. At the same sale Raeburn's portrait of Helen Boyle obtained £3,500, showing that works of that master have lost none of their popularity. Coming to more recent sales, the Hardy collection of Nelson relics, purchased for the Naval Museum at Greenwich, realised exceptionally high figures at Christie's, the telescope which was given to Lord Nelson by Lady Hamilton obtaining more than £1,500; while only a few weeks ago a set of Wheatley's "Cries of London" went for £1,280 at Sotheby's, a price which compares favourably with sums given for other sets sold during the last three or four years.

The above facts afford a conclusive refutation of those who tell us that the cult of the antique is on the wane. It is true that the sensational figures reached in the auction rooms four or five years ago have not been repeated, nor are likely to be repeated for a very long time to come. At the height of the boom, antiques, in common with other securities, attained a value which was almost fictitious. The sharp sword of the depression has pricked the bubble of prices artificially inflated by the American demand. But the past year has shown that works of art of high quality are still in as great demand as ever, and with prices restored to a level of reality, an increasing number of buyers, who had been compelled to retire from the field, have again been coming forward. That this should be so is an encouraging sign of the times, and one that plainly indicates that confidence is in the air. In opening the highly successful Art Treasures Exhibition arranged by the British Antique Dealers' Association last October, Lord Lee of Fareham, in a witty speech, quoted the story of the Aberdonian smash-and-grab raider who, when his mate showed him his haul of diamond rings, said: "Aye, no so bad; but, mon, did ye no remember to bring back the brick?" While this may have been the state of mind of collectors twelve months ago, the beginning of 1933 finds most of them eager once more to take part in one of the most fascinating and least risky of speculations. As many have already discovered, the present is an ideal time to make judicious purchases, not only for the more affluent collector, but also for the humbler curio hunter, who delights in picking-up "unconsidered trifles."

EDITORIAL NOTICE

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COUNTRY NOTES.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

THE KING, with an unfailing instinct, struck exactly the right note in the broadcast message to his subjects upon Christmas Day. He has done so once again in reply to the New Year's message from the citizens of London, conveyed by the Lord Mayor. He spoke of the anxious year just past and the heavy responsibilities still weighing upon us, but added his confidence in the "spirit of dogged determination and endurance" which has and will continue to guide us. We can all endorse with respectful admiration His Majesty's words and do our best to "stick to it" not only doggedly but cheerfully. The traditional epithet for Christmas in our good wishes to one another is "merry"; that for New Year's Day is "happy," and both words are well chosen. It is good to be merry in season, but we cannot be merry all the year round. During the year ahead of us we can hope to be happy by doing our best to overcome difficulties, not minimising them, but, at the same time, not letting them depress us. New Year's Day always gives for the moment the pleasant sensation of a turning point, and we may hope that this time it is something more than a mere feeling and that we have good grounds for believing that we have turned the corner. In that hope we take leave to wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS

THE most notable feature of this week's Honours List is its variety and comprehensiveness. This, in a list prepared by the Prime Minister of a National Government, is as it should be; the present list compares well with some of its purely political predecessors. During the past year a great deal of most anxious work and responsibility has been thrown upon the public services, and it is fitting that the courage and efficiency of those who have borne it should be suitably recognised. Apart from this, it was inevitable that the C.I.G.S. should have a peerage. He was appointed for four years and has remained for seven, and has done miracles in consolidating the position of his always difficult office. Sir Rennell Rodd deserves his honour as much for his distinction as a man of letters and a humanist as for his diplomatic successes. Of Sir Joseph Duveen we can only say that the nation owes him a thousand thanks for all he has done for art in this country. The Duveen extension of the Portrait Gallery will soon be open, and all the other national collections of Great Britain are very much his debtors. Mr. Ambrose Heal has been very properly honoured for his encouragement of original craftsmanship and design; and Mr. Eric Maclagan, the Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, receives his reward for supplying the historical and critical basis from which alone the arts of the present and the future can arise. And finally, no honour will be received with more general approbation

than that bestowed upon Sir Owen Seaman, whose alliance with "Mr. Punch" has cheered us for so long.

UPS AND DOWNS OF CRICKET

IT is rash to make statements in the excitement of the moment, but there have surely been very, very few cricket matches of importance in which hopes and fears have fluctuated in so intensely dramatic a manner as in this second Test match at Melbourne. When Australia were out for what seemed a paltry score and the first two English batsmen had apparently dug themselves in up to lunch time we felt arrogantly positive that the match was as good as won. The Australian bowlers had no terrors, Grimmett was a back number, our men were sure to make a big score: nothing could stop them. And then the English side fell like corn before the sickle before those despised bowlers, and by the end of the day the whole situation had changed with kaleidoscopic rapidity. Not only did we look like losing the match, but our outlook on the whole series of Test matches was by many degrees more gloomy than ever before. We went to bed on Sunday night depressed and apprehensive; and then Monday morning brought another revulsion, for the Australians had only been saved from utter collapse by the restored and magnificent Bradman, and the whole match was again in the melting pot. Monday night seemed long and hard to bear. What would those early evening papers have to tell?

O'REILLY'S TRIUMPH

THEY were very early indeed, and the tale they told was one of disaster. Long before we descended to breakfast anybody's game had long been Australia's game, and the ding-dong struggle was over. Well, of course we have our regrets; but it must have been a fine match, the sort of game that every lover of cricket delights to watch, and Jardine was certainly justified in telling the Melbourne crowd that they had had more than their money's worth of thrills. Monday's play had shown, of course, that in the last innings of the game the state of the wicket was likely to be decisive; but nobody quite knew how decisive. If Bradman could put up a century, could not one of the Englishmen do the same, even though the ground might have crumbled a little more? When, however, wickets began to fall like ninepins before the magnificent bowling of O'Reilly, the end was obviously at hand, and O'Reilly shared with Bradman the honours of the game. One match apiece is no bad beginning for the series, and we shall all look forward with growing excitement to the third. Incidentally, can nothing be done to stop a certain section of the British—or is it "Britain"?—Press from murdering the English language by talking of the "England" team? If Woodfull is proud to be Australian, why on earth should Jardine not be an "English" man? But perhaps he is an Englishman?

QUESTIONS AND ANSWER

What is your love? A cloak to keep me warm,
Wrapped close about my shivering nakedness?
A solid shelter built against the storm?
A signal-rocket flaring through distress?
And what are you? A creature that draws breath,
A thing of flesh and blood and tortuous mind,
Corporeal, a pretty toy for Death,
And to his dusty shelf at last consigned?
Are you like this? Of earthly tissue made,
Compounded of all ignorance like me?
A lilliputian, puzzled and afraid,
That dreams not of its own infinity?

Are you like this? In every fear's despite,
Your love is warmth and shelter and a light.

PHYLLIS MEGROZ.

WILKINS AND THE GREEK REVIVAL

IN face of the turmoil which surrounds the height problem in modern London, buildings which still bear some relation to the human scale receive little attention, though they continue to be erected throughout the metropolis. Yet it is interesting to observe how modern fashion in this respect is now tending once again towards the strict canons of the Greek Revival. Among the chief exponents of that

movement was William Wilkins, the architect of the National Gallery and of University College, whose work was recently the subject of a lecture by Professor Beresford Pite at the R.I.B.A. In 1802 Wilkins was studying in Athens itself. Within thirty years he had become a master of Cambridge Gothic. Nevertheless he remained essentially a classical architect, in that he was always concerned with balance and sanity to the exclusion of fantasy. If the National Gallery, owing to the conditions imposed, is not a masterpiece, University College in Gower Street most certainly is. Its very perfection reveals the dangers that must accompany a second Greek Revival. The massive severity of the style demands a spacious setting; its disdain of ornament and liking for blind wall surfaces postulates an exact sense of ratios and proportion on the part of the architect. Such conditions are hard to come by in these days. The monuments of Soane, Smirke, and Wilkins should serve as general indications of London's character rather than as models whose detail may be borrowed at random. We do not want a revival of a revival.

COUNTRY HOUSE FIRES

THE last fortnight has witnessed a regrettable recurrence of those disastrous outbreaks of fire at a number of country houses, which have marred more than one Christmas season during the last few years. Lord Clinton's seat at Heanton Satchville; Cobtree Manor, near Canterbury (the reputed original of "Dingley Dell"); and now Blakesware, Lord Gerard's Hertfordshire home, have all three suffered either partial damage or complete destruction. In the past these outbreaks have usually occurred during periods of severe weather, when a hard frost has impeded the efforts made to gain control of the flames. But this Christmas there have been no similar conditions to account for the very serious damage sustained, though in one case there was no adequate water supply available. Fortunately, no loss of life has been incurred, but many valuable pictures and works of art perished. While no amount of precaution will render a country house completely fire-proof, the danger can be greatly diminished by attention to such obvious details as electric wiring, inspection of old chimneys, and the provision of a readily accessible water supply. In addition, to secure the full value of any loss sustained, the importance of complete cover by insurance cannot be too often emphasised. A detailed schedule and valuation of every piece of furniture insured is still the only real and effective safeguard.

THE FUTURE OF REAL ESTATE

IN 1931 universal depression and apprehensiveness reduced the estate market to an unprecedented inactivity, and until the autumn of 1932, recovery was slow. Openings for commercial and industrial investment were hard to find, and the rate of interest on gilt-edged securities was depressed to an all-round level of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. On the other hand, 5 to 7 per cent. from a permanent security with probability of an eventual enhancement of capital value is what English real estate of the urban structural class can safely be regarded as showing. It was, therefore, not surprising that the premier security, freehold ground rents, should have leapt up in price by two to three years' purchase. In the country the practical help promised to farmers has been one of the causes of a revival in the bidding for good farms; and residential properties and sporting land (along, of course, with fishing rights) have all shared in the improvement in the market during the last four months. There are other very gratifying signs with regard to the future of English real estate; we have several times, in our Estate Market pages recently, announced the intention of some of the great corporate holders of investments to put more money into real property. There is, in short, good reason for the hopeful tone of the various annual reports that have been and are being issued by the leading firms of estate agents.

ELECTRIC TRAINS TO BRIGHTON

SOME of the most charming of the early "Railway Prints" show, in various aspects, our ancestors of early Victorian days making their way from London Bridge in curious coaches drawn by the most primitive and delicate of steam

engines to the railway station at Brighton. That was cut in the side of the down far above the sea, and overlooked that famous cricket ground, the Level. From it great brick viaducts, with soaring piers and delightfully proportioned arches, spanned the deep combe of Preston and led to the Regency glories of Mr. Thomas Kemp's new Town. Our fathers would rub their eyes with astonishment indeed if they could make the same journey to-day in one of the new electric trains which began to run on Sunday. We hope that the new service will be a great success. It has been the fashion for too long to sniff at Brighton as the haunt of one-day and half-day trippers, and to forget entirely its delightful Regency architecture, not only the stuccoed precipices of Sussex Square and Brunswick Crescent, but the smaller squares in the interior of the town which lie more modestly retired from the general gaze. As for the health-giving properties of its invigorating air, it deserves all the praises of the past two centuries. It even has its own "waters," though St. Ann's Well has long ceased to be used for medicinal purposes and the "German Spa" at the foot of Queen's Park is almost forgotten.

THE TREE

In Tramplington the people go
With dusty clamour to and fro
Where tramways ring and groan and shake
The trembling pavements in their wake;
And brassy sun goes burning down
The tortured streets of Tramplington.

And standing near the Market Clock
Watching the tramcars reel and rock
And people rushing everywhere
And hearing maddened traffic blare,
I thought men's souls were spent to crown
The crazy skull of Tramplington;

I thought that Nature's kindly face
Must be unknown to such a place,
And this a people strange, unknown,
Out of some mad upheaval thrown,
Till glancing up I laughed to see,
Peacefully green and calm, a tree!

A tree in Tramplington! Ah, know:
Men's souls and trees together grow,
And Tramplington will not forget
To spell from Nature's alphabet;
'Twill look upon its tree, and eh,
Its spirit will be far away!

THOMAS J. WOOD.

SIR LIONEL EARLE, G.C.V.O.

THE promotion of Sir Lionel Earle from a Knight Commander to a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order marks the end of a very distinguished career in the public service, for Sir Lionel, who has been for twenty years Permanent Secretary to the Office of Works, is retiring at the end of the month. The duties of his office are many and multifarious, and he has discharged them all with a vigour and efficiency which at the beginning of the century nobody would have associated with His Majesty's Office of Works. In the course of his official career he has made hosts of friends, both in this country and abroad, who will be very sorry to know that he is retiring. Few people realise that the Office of Works, and not the Foreign Office, is responsible for the fabric and maintenance of our embassies and other diplomatic stations abroad, and that, consequently, Sir Lionel is regarded as a most welcome visitor by the Diplomatic Corps in every capital of Europe. His praises resound in Paris, in Brussels, in Madrid. In Washington, too, where he superintended the building and furnishing of our new Embassy, he is extremely popular. But if we wish to discover his chief claim to our gratitude, let us walk into one of our London parks and remember what it was like some twenty years ago. To-day our parks are among the most lovely gardens in the world. Then they were dull and uninteresting examples of municipal gardening. For the change we have largely to thank Sir Lionel Earle.

Famous Hunts and their Countries

THE DARTMOOR



THE PACK AND FIELD ON HENLAKE DOWN

THE fame of Devon has deservedly travelled so far afield that there is no need to enlarge here on its natural attractions. Everyone knows that it has a sea coast both on the north and on the south and that in between are two great stretches of moorland—Exmoor (shared with Somerset) and Dartmoor. But perhaps it is not quite so obvious how as many as a dozen packs of foxhounds are distributed over the county—to say nothing of staghounds and numerous packs of harriers. Imagine the country, then, divided into North and South Devon by a line running east and west through Okehampton and Exeter. Then at the very top of North Devon lies the Exmoor country, and below that the Dulverton, both including large tracts of open moorland. South of that come the Eggesford and the Tiverton packs, and south-east of each the Silverton and the East Devon respectively—all of them hunting enclosed grass countries, varying from the very rough, peaty grazing in parts of the Tiverton country to the rich red-soiled pastures of East Devon. On the west, or Cornish, side the Stevenstone, the Tetcott and the South Tetcott all lies between the Eggesford and the sea, though of those three the last two spend much of their time in Cornwall.

So there are nine packs of foxhounds in North Devon, and at first sight it seems a trifle strange that there should be only three established packs in the southern half of the county. Actually there are several other packs which do hunt the fox, but at least half of South Devon consists of the Forest of Dartmoor, and Dartmoor cannot be hunted as often or as closely as an up-country grass vale. The moor lies in a solid lump between Okehampton, Tavistock, Ivybridge and Bovey Tracey, with ten or fifteen miles of in-country—that is to say, low, enclosed country—running round it from Launceston down the Tamar to Plymouth, and from there round the sea coast to Exeter. It is twenty miles from Tavistock (on the west) to Bovey Tracey (on the east), and twenty-five from Okehampton (on the north) to Ivybridge (on the south), and, though roads run all round the edge of the moor, practically speaking there are only two roads across it. One runs from Plymouth to Moreton Hampstead, and the other from Tavistock to Ashburton. These roads cross at Two Bridges, which is a couple of miles from Princetown, of prison fame. Incidentally, Two Bridges is famous for hospitality of a very different nature, for the hotel there is the headquarters of the Two Bridges Hunt Club, a very strictly ruled dining club, of which only graduates in fox hunting on

Dartmoor are eligible to become members. Four miles from this hotel, towards Moreton Hampstead, is Postbridge, which may be called the centre of the moor, though the highest and wildest parts are some distance away. Imagine the moor divided diagonally into four sectors round Postbridge. Then the eastern sector belongs to the South Devon. The northern one was hunted by the old Mid-Devon pack until it was given up in 1914, and since then has been hunted by the South Devon. The western sector really belongs to the Lamerton, but they are fully occupied at present with their in-country, between Tavistock and Launceston. So that part is now only hunted occasionally by the Dartmoor, whose proper territory is the southern sector. In practice, then, the South Devon hunts all the north-eastern half of the moor, and the Dartmoor all the south-western half, and since each pack has some in-country as well, farther south, it will be realised that they have very large areas indeed to hunt.

But size is the least of the difficulties in each case. For the surface of Dartmoor is not at all like that of other moors. It is not even like that of Exmoor. There are bogs on Exmoor, it is true, but they are few and far between. There is hardly a square mile of Dartmoor, however, on which there are not bogs treacherous enough to hold a horse. Nor do the bogs always look rushy and green, as bogs should do in theory. Very often they grow coarse, yellow grass, or even heather, like the rest of the moor. Then Dartmoor makes a speciality of rock clitters. The greater part of it is strewn with granite boulders—due no doubt to some frolic on the part of a glacier—and where these lie close together only a mountain goat could pick his way among them. Sometimes a patch of smooth heather is succeeded without warning by what is in reality heather growing up through the chinks in such a clitter. Thus the galloping horseman may suddenly find himself lurching about among the boulders, and if his horse's feet slip through the chinks he will be very lucky indeed if he emerges without serious damage. Further attractions consist of old mine shafts, bequeathed by the tin miners, and, last but not least, fog. It is difficult enough to find one's way about on the moor in clear weather. The landmarks are very confusing, and the pitfalls, as we say, are many. But when fog suddenly descends only a local expert who knows not only each tor, but almost each peat hag by sight, can possibly hope to find his way off the middle of the moor on horseback. A stranger, unless he was lucky enough to strike one of the few paths or stone walls, which must necessarily be built on solid ground,



A. Vowles

THE MASTER, COMMANDER C. H. DAVEY

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MOVING OFF UP THE VALLEY OF THE ERME, BY THE VIADUCT

could only abandon his horse and walk downhill. Before long he would find a stream, and the stream would eventually lead him, through bogs and rock clitters negotiable only on foot, to a road and so to civilisation. But it is not everyone who is capable of walking twelve or fifteen miles on a winter's night in hunting boots. Fog on the moor introduces the risk of losing not only hounds, but men and women, and the fact that such accidents are very rare indeed only emphasises the precautions which are taken by those in authority.

But enough of these horrors. Dartmoor is, indeed, a rough country—certainly the roughest in England. But it has many redeeming features, and a fascination all its own. It is an open country in which anyone who knows his way (such genii are very few indeed!) and can gallop fast enough can, in theory, see hounds at work from the moment they hit off a fox's drag, and eventually unkennel him in the heather, until they kill

him, mark him to ground, or "account for him by losing him." It is, on the whole, a wonderful scenting country, and there are one or two parts where the moor has been drained and fenced with stone walls, so that even the stranger can gallop and jump for a mile or two without any *détours*. It is true that there are innumerable rivers to be crossed, but they are all quick-running streams with solid bottoms. As for covert, not so very long ago it was accurate to say that Dartmoor "Forest" was a complete misnomer, and that there were practically no trees at all on the open moor, with the exception of that odd patch of very ancient oak trees, just above Two Bridges, known as Wistman's Wood. In some of the more sheltered river valleys there is a little well established woodland, and there are some small, modern fir plantations at Prince-



BEN AND SALLY, CHILDREN OF CAPTAIN AND MRS. SPARROW, IVYBRIDGE

town and at Brimpts. But no one ever thought of wasting money and spoiling the unique beauty of Dartmoor by planting on a large

*A. Vowles*

(Left) The Hon. Alice Brand, hunting from Admiralty House, Plymouth. Her brother until quite recently was Commander-in-Chief, Devonport. (Centre) Mrs. Hildyard, wife of the Area and Divisional Commander, Devonport. (Right) Lord Mildmay of Flete, Lord Lieutenant of Devon

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THE BITCH PACK ON THE LAWN AT BEACONVILLE, THE MASTER'S RESIDENCE
(Centre) The Master. (Right) Mr. E. C. Henn-Gennys, Hon. Sec., and Treasurer. (Left) S. Piper, 1st Whip and K. H.

scale, until, a couple of years ago, the Forestry Commission began work near Bellever Tor. The trees have not yet made much headway (will they ever do so?), but a wire netting enclosure on Laughter Tor is something alien to the nature of Dartmoor, and repellent to the guardians of its traditions. However, Dartmoor has ways of its own of dealing with intruders, and we are inclined to think that the last laughter will be with the tor concerned.

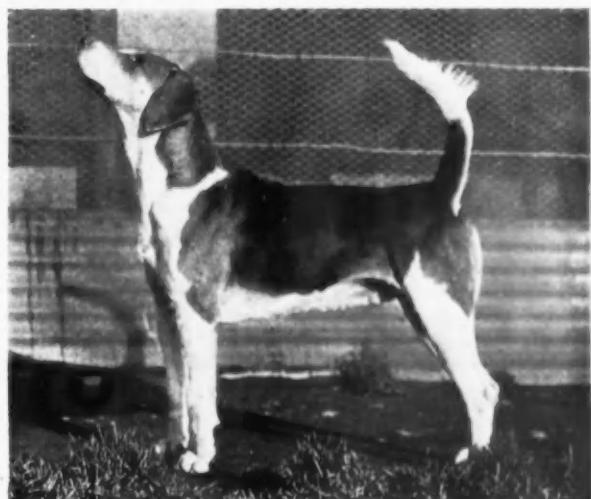
So the moor still preserves its bare wildness, and, though it is bleak enough in bad weather, it is at all times a most exhilarating piece of country. There is always something new to be learnt about the moor and the creatures who inhabit it. Each new piece of knowledge gives a feeling of satisfaction, and even some intricate journey across it in a storm gives a feeling of exultation to all but the most hardened locals. The in-country, down towards the English Channel, suffers rather by comparison. It is cut up by a succession of deep river valleys, of which the sides are heavily wooded; but in between the valleys there is some good grass country fenced, like other parts of Devon, with big banks topped with thick beech hedges. Not many of these banks are jumpable—those on the edge of the moor are sometimes bare of growth; but if the rabbit trapping was not such an important industry, and if the Dartmoor Hounds had not so much good moorland at their disposal, this in-country would be much more highly valued.

It is easy to imagine that in such a wild country the fox has been hunted from time immemorial; but as late as a hundred years ago foxes were actually very scarce in Devon. Mr. George Templar of Stover, in the middle of the South Devon country, used to hunt bagged foxes and (as Mr. Lionel Edwards has reminded us in his recent book) used to pick up the fox in front of the hounds with unfailing regularity. However, the wild fox was being hunted on the western side of Dartmoor well over a hundred years ago, though it was the mastership of Mr. Charles Trelawny (1843–73) which thoroughly established fox hunting in the present Dartmoor country. Mr. Trelawny was a Cornishman, his seat being at Coldrenick, on the River Seaton; but he quickly acquired a knowledge of Dartmoor, and a knack of crossing it at a great pace which, combined with his enthusiasm for hounds and houndwork, enabled him to show some wonderful sport.

Equally great was the mastership of Mr. W. Coryton (1889–1916) of Pentillie Castle, who followed Admiral Parker. He was a fox hunter of the very first order, and any enquiring visitor will almost

certainly be regaled at present, and for many years to come, with stories of Squire Coryton and his hounds. After he retired, a committee had the hounds for three years, and then (in 1919) the present Master, Commander C. H. Davey, was appointed. It would be an impertinence to comment on the success of such an acknowledged expert on moorland fox hunting, but it is quite safe to say that no previous Master has ever been more conscientious or more generous, nor has the country ever been better looked after. Commander Davey is a light-weight, and he and Piper (his kennel huntsman and single-handed whipper-in) are both most beautifully mounted. Perhaps, in the Master's case, dead reckoning and other nautical aids are used to good effect; but certainly the whole establishment crosses the moor in all weathers with unfailing accuracy, and at a pace which horrifies the unsophisticated stranger.

With a series of long masterships in the background, the breeding of the hounds has enjoyed the priceless advantage of continuity. The foundation is that of the best blood from the classic English kennels—Belvoir, Badminton, Berkeley and others; and Commander Davey himself has made much use of that type of outcross—in particular of Badminton blood. During the last two or three years, however, he has sought help rather nearer at hand. Some Four Burrow crosses have been very useful indeed, and, in spite of the dispersal of that pack during the War, they introduce the famous Four Burrow Whipcord (1905) blood. There is also some very good stock in the kennel by Tiverton Whynot (1925), a son of their Woodman (1921). There are several traces of Sir Edward Curre's Itton blood in the pack, but it was rather a new venture when the Master acquired, two years ago, Reveller (1930), by Mr. David Davies's Rouser (1926)—His Gossamer (1923), a very hard, active, smooth-coated dog, who shows his lines of Welsh blood in his exceptional nose and voice. He and his stock have been a great success, and their music, in particular, is a great asset where it is so often necessary to ride well away from the line taken by the pack. A Berkeley cross naturally suits these principles very well, and one of the best litters bred lately is Raider, Ranter, Rector, Regent and Ransom, by Berkeley Comrade (1926)—Rapture (1927), by Badminton Rustic (1923), a litter combining the excellence of both Berkeley and Badminton. Vulcan (1929), by Badminton Chimer (1927); Gainer (1930), by Four Burrow Gamecock (1924); Balmy (1931), by Tiverton Whynot (1925); and SealSkin (1932), by Reveller,



RANTER



BALMY

might be chosen to represent the other main outcrosses in the first generation. But as a type of post-War Dartmoor breeding, Racket (1929), by Rupert (1927)-Sybil (1925); or Smuggler (1929) and Scarcity (1930), both by Sailor (1925)-Savoury (1925), well exemplify the compact, good-shouldered hound, who can gallop all day on the moor and go up or down the steepest places with equal ease.

The pace at which these hounds cross the moor rather overshadows the other features of Dartmoor fox hunting. With virtually no fences to stop them, they certainly do gallop at a great pace, and the Hunt staff succeed in going as fast, or faster when a *détour* is necessary. Otherwise they would very soon lose the hounds altogether. There is invariably a wind on the moor, to make hearing more difficult, and there is no one there who may be asked whether he has seen the hounds though the moor ponies and the sheep may show some helpful excitement. So there is plenty of galloping. But there is also some very pretty slow houndwork to be seen. "Up the country" we are denied the pleasure of seeing hounds actually find a fox, because the incident is invariably hidden in a covert. But on the moor every detail is apparent from the striking of the overnight drag to the fox's appearance among or ahead of the hounds. Indeed, the art of finding a fox there is a very important and a very fascinating study. No one could seriously set out to draw four or five thousand

acres of moorland yard by yard. It is essential to watch the hounds and notice which way they want to go. But there are scores of other considerations. With a strong wind blowing, to draw up-wind runs the risk of catching the fox asleep; to draw down-wind gives him a chance of hearing the hounds a couple of miles away and securing a long start. To draw straight into a stretch of bog may mean that fox and hounds go straight away across the bog and are never seen again that day.

On Dartmoor, in fact, the huntsman is continually matching his wits against the fox, the surface of the moor, and the elements. For once, there is no need to consider crops, shooting interests, main roads, and motor traffic, or any other of man's innovations. The foxes on the moor are as wild and as strong as foxes ever have been, and they make the most of their surroundings. There are innumerable places where they can go to ground in rocks and peat hags; but the Dartmoor authorities manage to do a good deal of earth-stopping, and the fact that so many foxes are killed in the open after making good points is proof of effective organisation as well as of technical skill. The time may come—we hope not for many years yet—when the face of Dartmoor is altered by draining or planting. But meanwhile the open moor, together with the style of its fox hunting, is a national heritage, and should be preserved as such.

M. F.

AT THE THEATRE THE DECLINE OF PANTOMIME

MILD-THINKING and mild-mannered man though I am, I am always filled with fury when I think of what highbrows demand of pantomime, meaning the Christmas variety and not something to do with the theory of masks, the *Commedia dell' Arte*, and Mr. Gordon Craig. I am prostrate with admiration of Mr. Cochran, I bend the knee before Mr. A. P. Herbert, I kiss the feet of Mr. Oliver Messel, and throw seven fits of ecstasy at the music of Humperdinck. Yet I swear that if Messrs. Cochran, Herbert, Messel, and Humperdinck ever produce a pantomime, with the trifling assistance of Messrs. Fokine, Massine, Reinhardt, Komisarjevsky, and Balieff, I shall retire to Wolverhampton until the highbrow blight is over. The difference between great and little minds on this subject is that the former desire brains and I desire vacuity, not to say vulgarity. Ruskin went to Drury Lane pantomime and there is a famous passage in which in a page of good Ruskinian prose he describes how a little girl of nine came on and did her innocent, modest bit. I regret I cannot remember Ruskin's word for "bit." After she had retired amid applause proceeding out of the sympathy of parents of other dimpled innocence asleep at home in cots, the scene was invaded by low comedians and, as I imagine, ladies who had retained their dimples though not their innocence. Whereat Ruskin growlingly records that the rest of the evening passed like a bad dream. Mr. Shaw went to Drury Lane, and as that sage is now on his way to Otaheite where there is a chance that he may not see what I write I shall say that his remarks on the subject of "Babes in the Wood" betray a total misunderstanding of what Christmas pantomime is intended to be about:—"The pantomime ought to be a redeeming feature of Christmas, since it professedly aims at developing the artistic possibilities of our Saturnalia." It is not necessary to ask who filled Mr. Shaw's head with this absurd stuff as to the professed aims of Drury Lane pantomime; Mr. Shaw is quite capable of doing his own stuffing. Nor is it necessary to pull down the imposing edifice of argument erected by Mr. Shaw on his false premises. He comes to the conclusion that "to the mind's eye and ear the modern pantomime, as purveyed by the late Sir Augustus Harris, is neither visible nor audible. It is a glittering, noisy void, horribly wearisome and enervating like all performances which worry the physical senses without any recreative appeal to the emotions and through them to the intellect." And his suggestion is that the thing should be cut in half and the evening filled up with "some comparatively amusing play by Ibsen or Browning." One knows that Mr. Shaw was largely joking, but the suspicion remains that he dislikes Christmas pantomime first because it is chiefly made up of tomfoolery and second that he hates seeing anybody else playing tomfool.

Mr. Max Beerbohm has more sense in this matter. I have been re-reading Mr. Beerbohm and have been astonished to find how little of him is shimmering sprightliness and how much is solid horse-sense. Mr. Beerbohm's view is that did England possess an Aristophanes and were that Aristophanes commissioned to write a national pantomime, it would doubtless be a huge success on condition that every ounce of satire, which is the one quality for which Aristophanes is famed, was cut out of it. This critic lays it down that the English do not like satire,

in which I am in whole-hearted agreement. What the English have always liked is buffoonery and the unfortunate thing is that the supply of buffoons is smaller than it was, while the buffoons have lost some of the old quality, just as the Principal Boys have lost nearly all theirs. Pantomime follows the age as trade follows the flag. The young people of to-day delight to spend their evenings watching Maurice Chevalier leering at Jeanette Macdonald, and it follows that pantomime must follow the degenerate lead, degenerate in the sense that all sophistication shows a lessening in vitality. Pantomime Dames no longer amuse us with wringing out the smalls and jesting the while about mother-in-laws and gin; to-day they must put on the whole armour of Paquin or Worth and get the best fun they can out of the mince and waggle of your mannequin. Yet when the first-class buffoon arrives he makes his own laws and imposes his will in this art as in any other. Such a buffoon of genius is Mr. George Lacy who is the life and soul of "Mother Goose" at Daly's. There is another good Dame in Mr. Tom Newell in "Dick Whittington" at the Hippodrome, and in the matter of preference I feel like that critic of another day who asked to decide between two rival comedians replied that Mr. Palmer had the more money but that Mr. King was the taller man.

But the decline is most manifest in your Principal Boy who no longer ruffles it as she was wont to do. For me as a child there was no torment so exquisite as the choice between two pantomimes, it being in those days an unheard-of thing for a properly brought-up child to be taken to more than one. What stabs of agony when you had made your choice and were finally there, and first a quarter of the wonderful night and then half began to slip all too relentlessly away. And the last hour of that earthly paradise when, like a wise man nearing his last days of spending, you threw away the minutes with both hands and lived only for the second! And the heartache when the curtain fell on the most spanking prince and the most entrancing girl who ever danced through tribulation in satin shoes! I forgot what golden harridan it was who peopled my dreams between the ages of seven and twelve with her dashing presence, her rollicking spirits, her plumed three-cornered hats, her cockades and her diadems, her riding-whips and her jewelled garters. I forgot what little lady in doublet of sage-green held my heart against all comers during the same period. I only know that when at my first Shakespearean play I beheld some actress of repute as the woodland Rosalind she seemed but the merest patch upon my little green lady of the pantomime. My complaint of the Principal Boys of to-day is that they are too sage, too much inclined to take the hint from Marvell and annihilate "all that's made to a green thought in a green shade." They are pensive where they should be riotous and the songs they sing are melancholy. This again is dictated by the age which likes to make the tour of the ball-room in one slow, sustained, nostalgic droop. Possibly, nay probably, I am a bad guide to pantomime. But if you insist upon my advice I recommend "Mother Goose" at Daly's because that is nearest the type of entertainment which Mr. Vincent Crummles would have offered to Mrs. Crummles and the Infant Phenomenon, or with their aid presented.

GEORGE WARRINGTON.

LARGE FIELDS at the HOLIDAY MEETS



THE CHILDREN'S MEET OF THE MID-SURREY DRAG HUNT (ARMY CLUB BRANCH); PASSING THE GRAND STAND AT EPSOM RACECOURSE



MOVING OFF AFTER THE MEET OF THE WHADDON CHASE, NEAR LEIGHTON BUZZARD



THE WEST NORFOLK HUNT: THE FIELD MOVING ROUND A COVERT



THE BELVOIR HOUNDS MEET IN THE MARKET PLACE AT MELTON MOWBRAY

THE BLACK-THROATED DIVER

By FRANCES PITTS



THE BLACK-THROATED DIVER

IN the black-throated diver we have a bird of peculiar fascination and of strange beauty, a study in black, grey and white, a marvel of lines, streaks and pencilling, and one that seems truly fitted to enjoy life on the grey waters of some wild loch.

It was a bare, bleak and desolate spot where I located a breeding pair. The loch, its waters rippled by a bitterly cold north wind, lay amid the brown, peaty, heathery waste that stretched afar to sombre purple hills, behind which, faintly blue, rose remote snow-capped heights to meet the grey clouds.

The divers' nest was on a small grassy island at the southern end of the loch. I term it a "nest," but, in truth, there was no nest, the eggs, two large handsome olive-brown ones with dark blotches, being laid in a slight depression of the turf, and near enough to the edge of the island to permit the diver to spring from them into the water.

But what of madame herself? Well, there came a morning when I sat within a hiding tent placed at one end of the island, and, with my camera at the "ready" and my eye glued to a peephole, waited for her to return to duty on her eggs. Soon she was in sight, riding comfortably on the waves, not hurrying, but just floating in towards her treasures. She was not conspicuous on the water, looking like a submarine that has just emerged after a dive, which was what she had in fact done, for she had approached under water.

I had been astounded the previous day by the length of her dives and the rate at which she swam under water. Owing to the crystal clearness of the water, one could watch her progress beneath it and see her shooting along like a feathered torpedo.

She floated nearer and nearer, being driven in by the wind, which lashed the loch until miniature breakers crashed against the islet, and my frail shelter seemed likely to be blown away.

Suddenly the diver stretched her neck out, lying with her head almost on the water, and a weird mournful howl rose upon the air. It was a louder cry than the moan to which the black-throat sometimes gives utterance, but quite as weird and melancholy.

Than the diver rolled upon her side, showing her white underparts, and stretching out a black leg put her foot to her beak—just like a little vulgar

boy putting his fingers to his nose! Madame repeated the gesture again and again! Once more she howled, and finally, having long since resumed a normal position in the water, really turned her attention to home affairs. "Nearer and nearer she comes, at last she is close in to the island, gives herself a heave and a spring, and is upon dry land. She falls upon her breast, scrambles forward, stands for a moment over her eggs, adjusts their position beneath her and drops down upon them," wrote I in my notebook; and went on to say:

"Now, indeed, one can realise what a lovely creature she is, as she sits there so happily, utterly oblivious of a near-by human presence, but ever alert for anything moving in the distance, and incessantly turning her head this way and that, keeping a keen look-out for everything, however far away the possible danger may be."

"Seen thus, at close quarters, it appears her head is shaded French grey, her eye is pheasant red, and her black gorget has in it a tinge of purple. Just beneath her chin is a touch of white (her neckwear is of clerical design), while, below, the black gorget is divided from the grey by fine stripes of black and white. Her front is also pin-striped. To add to the smartness of her appearance her glossy black wing coverts are checked with little white squares."

Yet, lovely as she looked sitting thus at her ease, lovely as she was when she dived from the eggs, swam off a little way and stood up in the water and flapped her wings, yet more beautiful did she appear when her mate joined her: but first she had to fetch him. She howled loudly, uttering a sound that would have made a wolf's howl appear cheerful, took wing and flew away, disappearing as a speck in the distance. But in five minutes two specks came into view, increased in size rapidly, became two divers, shot by the hide and alighted with a tremendous swish in the water. Unlike most birds alighting on water, they did not extend their feet to break the shock of descent, but kept them tucked up, landed on their breasts and simply ploughed through the waves.

The two lay together on the silvery grey water, and once they touched beaks, as if kissing. It must have been a good-bye kiss, for the one bird turned about and took wing. The other, that which I have spoken of as "Madame," and referred



THE BLACK-THROATED DIVER LOOKING AT HER EGGS

to as "she," came back to business.

This diver was the bigger and smarter of the two, so maybe the pronoun should have been "he"; but, whether or not, there was no neglect of nursery matters on its part, and "she" seems more suitable.

What a charming bird she was! —I mean from the bird-photographer's point of view, for she had no nerves whatever, so far as the hide was concerned. A peat-cutter crossing the moor a mile away

might cause her to crouch flat on the nest, or even dive headlong into the loch, to swim far under water before coming to the surface; but a canvas thing flapping wildly in a gale held no worries for her. I do not know if it bothered when it blew away altogether! All I can say is that, having left the hide with extra anchorage to keep it steady, I returned the following morning to find it gone, and not only had it disappeared, but



BLACK-THROATED DIVER CROUCHING AT THE SIGHT OF PEAT CUTTERS IN THE DISTANCE

not a vestige of it was left save the stones which had served to hold it down and steady it. My hiding tents have suffered from the inquisitiveness of cows, from the objectionable attentions of a billy-goat, and from interfering persons, but never before had one been blown away! However, Madame the diver had not been blown away; she was at home, and looking her usual elegant self.

Reluctantly I tore myself away, with many a backward glance, and the last I saw of her was as a dark speck floating on silvery grey water, with a background of brown moorland stretching away to the purple and blue hills. She was watching my departure before returning to her eggs. I wished her luck with them and that she might speedily hatch two quaint wee chicks that, in their turn, would grow into beautiful divers.

SOME ANTICIPATED JOYS

By BERNARD DARWIN

WOULD it be permissible to begin this week with a small piece of selfish personal gloating? I have not played any golf for ages nor wanted to play any, and now this starvation cure seems to be beginning to work as it does, I suppose, with the over-eaten persons who are put to bed and given nothing but orange juice. I have a distinct feeling that I should like to play golf again, and the day on which these words are published will find me, I hope, doing so on one of the most beloved of all links. No, I do not mean Aberdovey (that is coming later), but Rye. This is the week-end of the President's Putter, and something like sixty members of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society are going to assemble there to play for it.

Rye is one of those places the arrival at which has its peculiarly exciting and sacred moments. There is that one, for instance, when the deliciously slow four-wheeler which brings us and our luggage from the station suddenly turns a corner and we are face to face again with the ancient splendour of the Land Gate. I will not enumerate all the others: enough to say that for me the sound of nailed golf shoes on the Rye pavement has a ring of its own, and the peculiar thrill of ordering buttered toast for tea in the Dormy House billiard room is not to be matched elsewhere.

I suppose that the outside world deems us lunatics to hold our tournament in bleak January, and no doubt we do take a risk in the matter of weather. We have had at times frost and fog and bitter rain and gales of wind, and, in short, almost everything but snow, which last word I only dare write down while touching wood, shaking my left leg and whispering "In a good hour be it spoken." It has been suggested that we should play at some more clement time of year, but the experiment was tried once and proved a failure; the number of entries was much smaller than in any other year. In January there are no rival events, whereas all the more obviously golfable seasons are overcrowded. I am convinced that in spring or autumn this tournament would lose not only much of its unique character and unique fun, but a large number of its players. I will even go so far as to say that this exciting risk of the weather and the noble endurance which we have sometimes to show give a peculiar zest.

When round the lonely cottage
Roars loud the tempest's din,
And the good logs of Algidus
Roar louder yet within.

Those lines, once learnt by heart from our dear old *Lays of Ancient Rome*, can best express the heavenly cosiness of the evenings, which far more than makes up for any trials of the day.

The tournament gains every year in interest because, though it is only a dozen or so years old, it is yet quite old enough to have traditions. We have begun to think of it now in terms

of memorable years and matches. There is, for example, the Holderness Age, that long period of domination by Sir Ernest Holderness that seemed as if it would never end, until in 1924 he was at last beaten by Mr. Bristowe, who appeared an almost incredible hero. Sir Ernest has done many fine deeds in golf, but not many, I think, better than the winning of the Putter for four consecutive years. And what tremendous matches there used to be between him and Mr. Tolley, and what an excited crowd used to watch them! With 1924 a distinct period ended, and since that time we think in terms of years. Wethered's and Storey's year, for instance, when those two went on playing extra holes in the darkness till they were more or less forcibly restrained at the twenty-fourth and were allowed to hold the Putter jointly and severally. Then there is Gillies's year—a frosty one—when Sir Harold of that ilk played by far the most unbelievable stopping pitch on iron-hard ground and beat the godlike Tolley and Holderness in one day, with only a quarter of an hour's interval for lunch. Nineteen thirty-two deserves to be remembered as Crawley's and Evans's year, for those two went fighting on to the twenty-first hole, with darkness coming on fast, and such a mighty wind blowing as made Rye a true battlefield for giants. O yes, we have our proud traditions, and they grow yearly.

"Primus inter pares" is inscribed on the medal which each winner receives and wears just once in the year, at the dinner on the Saturday night. "He was rather lucky to win"—such was the rendering of it by Arthur Croome, whom we miss more, if possible, on this occasion than on any other. I remember wondering if he spoke with peculiar meaning when he told it me, for I had won not long before. I do not think so, though goodness knows he might have done; but in any case the words convey that which is beyond question true, that the Putter takes a good deal of winning. It does so not merely because there is a large number of good golfers—many of them, to be sure, rather out of practice—but because of the weather. Funny things do happen now and then, but I fancy far more of them would happen if we played in summer in balmy weather with running ground. The ball "maun be hit" a good long way at Rye in winter, and the winter wind can be terrific. If ever there was a day to sift wheat from chaff, it was the last day last year, when something of a superman was needed even to attempt to cross the hills at the Sea hole with his second. Mr. Crawley and Mr. Evans seemed to be playing very well in the final and made many magnificent shots; yet they took considerably more than eighty strokes apiece to get round. David often gets the weather to suit him when he is drawn against Goliath in the Amateur Championship; he gets it much less often at Rye in January.

One little point strikes me about this tournament; I don't know if it strikes other people. In a championship most of

us, I fancy, like to be drawn against a stranger, or, at any rate, someone not well known to us, whom we call, perhaps, "Mr.," and with whom we shake hands solemnly at the end of the match. We dislike being drawn against a friend, because we should prefer both him and ourselves to get through round or so, and it is unpleasant having to feel temporarily ferocious towards him. It is of no use to hold these possibly unreasonable sentiments in the Putter, because, whoever Fate decrees to be our adversary in the first round, he is bound to be a friend. We shall not shake hands with him, but only pat him on the back when he beats us ; but we have got to try to feel fierce, whether we like it or not.

It would be a wonderful thing if we could have this year

the gorgeous winter golfing weather of the week before Christmas. It would be all the pleasanter because we shall this time be playing all the new holes at Rye, and, since there are bound to be regrets over the old ones (made dangerous by the hated cars upon the road), we should like to see the new ones under good conditions. I hope for fine weather, but I do not expect it, and it will even be with a certain Spartan exaltation of spirit that I shall soon be packing woolies and leather waistcoats and mackintosh trousers and buying a new pair of mittens. Whatever happens (to quote my Macaulay again)—

When the oldest cask is opened
And the largest lamp is lit,
life ought not to be altogether unbearable.

MARKETING OF FAT STOCK

By G. H. NEVILLE

Being the seventh article in the section "Grassland" in the series "Towards an Agricultural Policy," edited by Christopher Turnor and F. J. Prewett

In the previous six articles dealing with livestock the writers, one and all, indicate the need for organisation. Many suggestions for improvement on the production side have been made, but the need for organisation of marketing is the underlying implication of all the articles. In this week's issue Mr. G. H. Neville of Wellingore, a practical and progressive farmer and landowner, contributes a short article on the need for organising the handling and marketing of fat stock. He has taken a definite area and worked out detailed suggestions for dealing with that side of the problem

BEFORE we can look forward to any fundamental change in our meat marketing methods a definitely stable agricultural policy acceptable to all political parties must be formulated.

Assuming that such a policy reserved for home-grown produce a definite quota, let us say half, of the meat requirements of this country, at a price at the same time fair to the consumer and profitable to the producer, the marketing problem should not be hard to solve.

Central abattoirs on a co-operative basis are, from the farmer's standpoint, the ideal to be aimed at, and might in many respects be modelled on the organisation of the sugar beet factories now working smoothly in many parts of England.

Let us imagine that such an abattoir, one of a chain of thirty or forty serving the whole country, is already in full work, and note its salient features.

It is situated in a rural district central to a consuming population of fully one million people (for example, between Nottingham and Leicester) and supplies are drawn and meat delivered by lorry over a radius of thirty-five or forty miles. The site provides a railway siding, good water supply, power from the "grid," and fully 1,000 acres of farm land. Capable of slaughtering 600 cattle, 3,000 sheep and 1,000 pigs per week, the factory can cater for the whole of the fresh meat requirements of the community it serves. The adjacent farm land and lairages can accommodate, if necessary, a full fortnight's supply of all livestock, and in its cold storage chambers a further fortnight's output can be held, thus ensuring an unfailing supply of all grades of meat.

A cannery factory and auxiliary departments deal with inferior meat and by-products in the most up-to-date manner, and all waste is eliminated.

It is financed by—

- (a) 3½ per cent. Debentures advanced by Government and secured on the land and buildings of the factory.
- (b) 5 per cent. Preference shares subscribed by the general public.
- (c) Ordinary shares of low denomination held by the co-operative producers in proportion to the amount of livestock they supply. These shares take the bulk of the net profits.
- (d) Deposits of co-operative purchasers drawing a fixed rate of interest and entitling their owners to wholesale prices and a smaller share of the net profits.

All classes of capital are represented on the Board of Management.

The factory supplies are drawn by lorry straight from the farm to the receiving depot where they are inspected by a veterinary official, graded into standard grades by the official grader under the eye of the farmers' representative, weighed, and numbered with an ear tab. If not required for immediate slaughter they are then turned out to the grassland or lairages to be drafted as required. A cheque for the market prices of their grade and weight is forwarded to the farmer next day.

A continuity of supply is maintained by the factory field men. These know all the co-operative producers in their

districts and have tabulated lists of the numbers, class and degree of maturity of all the livestock fed by each. Cattle are only forwarded to the factory on the instructions of the field men, and they are thus able to expedite or delay delivery of each class in accordance with the requirements of the factory management, thus avoiding gluts and shortages. These field men are the vital link in the chain of supplies. They are the friends of the farmers, and in the course of their routine visits to the farms are able to advise on the most suitable breeding, feeding and management of the stock. They can, for instance, place good meat bulls with dairymen who sell calves, and can, consequently, obtain enhanced prices for the calves from those of their clients who rear store stock. They and the farmers' representative at the factory give the farmer confidence that he is getting a square deal.

The ample cold storage accommodation enables the factory to put meat on the market in well hung condition, unless fresh-killed meat is specially called for, and an improved product is the result, superior in every way to imported chilled meat. "Eat tender British meat" is the advertising slogan.

By large-scale operations and the scientific utilisation of all by-products, the factory is able to work on a smaller margin of costs than individual butchers, and can, consequently, pay market prices to farmers at time of delivery and still have a dividend available for distribution at half-yearly intervals.

The retail distributive side remains in the hands of meat purveyors in the towns, who no longer slaughter, but receive their supplies as required from the factory. Each has a deposit account at the factory equal to one week's orders. He is then entitled to wholesale prices and a portion of the factory profits as a discount. Large private consumers, such as institutes, schools and hotels, are also supplied on these wholesale terms.

In order to keep in touch with the retail trade and act as a check to possible profiteering, the factory has one retail depot in each town from which meat of every grade is sold for cash over the counter ; but it is recognised that the giving of credit and distribution to small customers is the legitimate function of the meat purveyor, who is, naturally, entitled to charge for these services.

Abattoirs on these lines would improve the quality of supplies, eliminate waste, and bring producer and consumer directly into touch in one co-operative organisation.

AN EDITORIAL COMMENT BY CHRISTOPHER TURNOR

Mr. Neville's article concludes the section dealing with livestock. In it he deals in detail with, and makes constructive suggestions for, the marketing of fat stock. Co-operation figures largely in his scheme. Co-operation, as understood in Denmark, Ireland or New Zealand, has clearly never appealed to the English farmer; but "what's in a name!" so long as the substance—the collective organisation of the home producers—can be achieved? Organisation is the objective, and varying methods may be adopted. The Livestock Reconstruction Commission has been appointed, which will deal with the whole livestock question, and in view of the personnel of that Commission

there is no doubt that it is in competent hands and that, in due course, a constructive and comprehensive Report will appear. If, however, the recommendations of the Report are to be effective, the producer must back the movement whole heartedly.

What does organisation really mean? It means that there shall be quantitative regulation of home production and quantitative control of imports, one of the objects of which is to remove a main cause of fluctuations in price—namely, the alternate deficiency or superfluity of supplies. There is no foundation whatever for the belief that this involves a return to the old War-time control. Quantitative control does not involve the fixing of prices by the Government or anybody else. Prices, as heretofore, will be determined by the inter-action of supply and demand. It does, however, imply a relating of supply to demand. The Government, it seems, is now willing to give agriculture a chance of supplying a larger share of the home market at a reasonable level of prices, and is prepared to regulate imports in order to carry out this policy; but it will only do so on conditions. These conditions are, broadly, that producers should bring their marketing organisation as well as their production processes to a high state of efficiency; and that, individually and collectively, they should be required to give an assurance that the reasonable requirements of consumers as to quantity, quality, and price, will be met. It is recognised that this will require a much larger measure of self-imposed regulation and control than has hitherto been achieved, or even

thought of, by farmers in this country: but this, since it is in their own interest, is surely not a high price to have to pay for the abandonment by the country as a whole of what the present Minister of Agriculture has described as "a gospel of cheapness," or the policy of buying in the cheapest market irrespective of all other considerations.

We welcome Mr. Nevile's article because—in one sphere, at all events—he shows how this self-imposed regulation would work. Whether his financial proposals for the scheme are the most suitable, or not, we must await the appearance of the Reconstruction Commission's Report before we can pronounce. Certainly Mr. Nevile's suggestion of peripatetic "field men" as a liaison between the individual farmer and the central organisation unit is a most important one. These men will have to be very carefully chosen, since it would be hard to over-estimate the part which they could play in organising the producers. Presumably one of their functions would be to make contracts with the farmers just as the "field men" of the sugar beet factories make contracts with the sugar beet producers. The result of this organisation, and particularly the result that would come of Mr. Nevile's suggestion of placing good meat bulls with dairymen who sell calves, would be to improve the standard of quality of the beef produced in this country. It must be remembered that, although our best beef is the best beef in the world, at the present moment only about 30 per cent. of our production can be put into the first class.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

By CAPTAIN LINDSAY MUNDY

The author of "The Direct System of Contract Bidding" describes the method of valuing a hand for an initial suit bid

ONE of the main differences between the Direct system and all forms of Approach systems, so far as the opening bids of One of a suit are concerned, is the principle on which the opener's hand is valued.

What is the fundamental principle for the valuation of the opener's hand?

The strength, or trick-making capacity, of a hand consists of three constituents: (a) high cards, generally described as Honour tricks, (b) long suits and (c) ruffing capacity. The two latter may be grouped together under the description of "distribution," but ruffing capacity in the opener's hand only becomes an asset if the hand is very long in trumps, or if the responder holds at least four of the opener's trump suit.

Do not Approach systems also recognise these seemingly very obvious facts?

Yes, they do recognise them, but they do not act on them so far as opening bids of One are concerned.

They lay down hard and fast rules that an opening bid of One of a suit must not be made without two and a half honour tricks, only bringing distributional tricks into consideration in the case of pre-emptive bids, or of re-bidding.

And what does the Direct system do about it?

In all cases the Direct system takes trick-making capacity into account as being the true test of the valuation of a hand. For the reasons given above, ruffing capacity is omitted to start with; but the other two constituents, namely, Honour tricks and long suits, are considered jointly, and grouped together under the name of Probable tricks.

In deciding whether to open or not, which takes pride of place, Honour tricks or Probable tricks?

It must be remembered that Honour tricks are one of the component parts of Probable tricks, so that they cannot be entirely treated as separate entities; the number of Probable tricks held is, in the last resort, the deciding factor, though the Honour tricks are not entirely ignored, as will be seen later when discussing the opening bids in detail.

Obviously, then, the first thing to do is to fix the valuation of the opener's hand in both Honour and Probable tricks. How is this done?

Primarily, the valuation is made on the assumption that the hand will be played in the suit which the opener bids first, which, for the sake of simplicity, we will call the trump suit. To arrive at the trick valuation of this trump suit, first of all consider the three top cards in the suit, and value them as

Honour tricks. Incidentally, the scale of Honour tricks in side suits is the same.

A K Q	3	K Q	1½
A K J	2½	A	
A Q J	2½	K J x	1
A K		K x	
K Q J	2	Q J x	½
A Q 10		*Q x x x	½
A Q		*J 10 x x	
A J 10			
K Q 10	1½		
K J 10			

* Except in trumps.

What is the principle on which this scale is based?

In the first three rounds of the suit there are, of course, three tricks to be made. From this number, deduct the tricks which may be lost. Thus holding A K J there is an even chance of losing the Queen, so that holding is worth 2½; with K Q J the Ace must be lost, so it is worth 2. With A J 10, one trick must be lost, and two may be, so it is worth 1½.

What about the remaining cards of the trump suit, beyond the three top ones?

In the trump suit, each card beyond the first three counts as one Probable trick, provided it is at least a five-card suit. This is based on the probability of the adverse trumps falling in three rounds, especially if the opener's partner supports the bid. In the case of a four-card suit, this probability does not exist, so the fourth card ranks only as half a trick, unless it is the knave or ten, when it counts as a whole trick.

How are the side suits valued?

The three top cards of side suits are valued in the same way as the trump suits, but the extra cards have a slightly reduced scale of valuation; it is, of course, universally recognised that the possession of two five-card suits is a great asset, but the chance of establishing the side suit depends greatly on the high cards it contains. Therefore in a strong side suit, which means one headed by at least A J or K Q or K J 10, the fourth card is given the value of half a trick, further cards one trick each. In a moderate suit the fourth card is omitted altogether, and in a weak suit the fifth card is reduced to half a trick.

The following examples afford typical illustrations, the Diamond suit being trumps in each case:

♦—K Q x	(1½)	♦—A J x x	(1½)
♥—Nil	(0)	♥—x x x	(0)
♦—K Q x x x	(3½)	♦—A K x x	(2½)
♣—A x x x x	(2)	♣—x x	(0)
		6½	4

The first hand thus qualifies as a minimum Two Diamond opening, and the second as a minimum One Diamond opening.



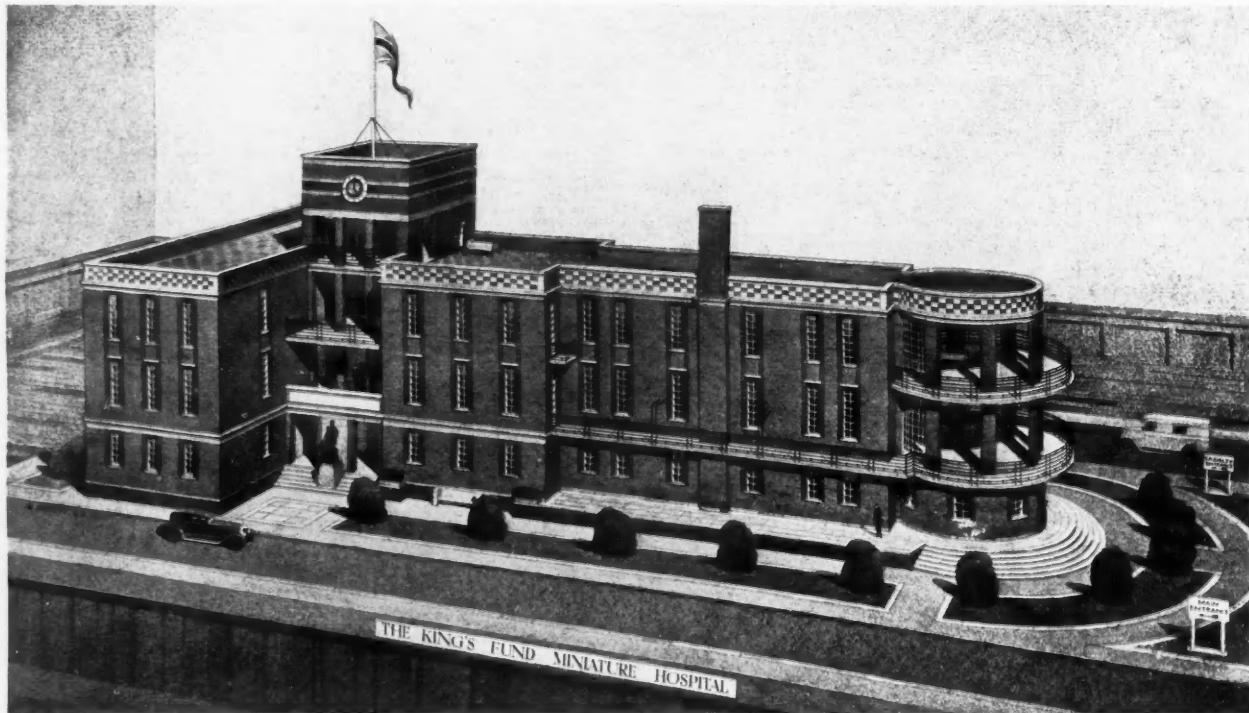
This scale model of a modern hospital, designed in perfect proportion and detail, has been built with the object of interesting the general public in the great work carried on by the King Edward's Hospital Fund for London. During the present month it will be on view at the Building Centre in Bond Street, where it is being opened by H.R.H. The Prince of Wales on January 6th. Below we publish an account of the Lilliputian hospital, written by a supposed descendant of the famous Gulliver

MANY years have passed since the famous *Gulliver*, my Ancestor, published his now celebrated Account of *A Voyage to Lilliput*, in which he made known to the World the existence of that Diminutive People inhabiting a remote Island in the *South Sea*. From that time unto this present age no Traveler had ventured to go in search of a Kingdom so far removed from all Channels of Trade and Intercourse, until a Resolve, born by the marriage of Curiosity and family Pride, induced the present author to undertake that hazardous journey.

It is not my purpose to set forth here a Particular Account of what I saw : that may be reserved for a Greater Work. But since I had the good fortune to bring back with me a *Relick* of that Kingdom, which during the last few weeks has caused no small stir in the Town ; since also His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has been graciously pleased to examine it, and has signified his intention of being present at the new Magazine (or Repository) of the Building Trades in *Bond Street*, on the

Sixth day of January next, when this Singular Construction is to be displayed to the Publick view ; perhaps it will not be thought amiss if I inform the World how a Work exhibiting so much ingenuity came to be made, as also the Circumstances in which I was enabled to carry it away with me on my Return.

It will be remembered that my Ancestor brought back from his Voyage some Specimens of *Lilliputian* Sheep and Cattle from which a numerous Breed has since been propagated, whose Descendants may often be seen exposed for sale in the Christmas Fairs held in the great Emporia of the City. To some it may appear a mark of Singularity that I should have selected one of their *Hospitals* or *Infirmaries* as the most curious and instructive Manifestation of their Arts and Sciences. The Reader must be informed that it was no Whim or Quirk of Fancy which led me to this Choice. When I arrived in *Lilliput*, where I was entertained with every mark of courteous Attention, I found that with the Passage of Time an extraordinary Revolution had taken place in the mode of life of the Inhabitants. Far



A PERSPECTIVE DRAWING OF THE MODEL HOSPITAL



THE ADULTS' WARD

In accordance with the latest practice, the beds are arranged parallel with the walls

from being a backward People, like the *Chinese* Nation, whose Manners and Customs continue unchanged through the centuries, the *Lilliputians* are no less progressive than ourselves; indeed, in some respects they have outstripped us both in the Ferility of their Invention and in the Ordering of their Affairs.

Not many days after arrival my at the Court of the Emperor His Majesty was pleased to discourse to me on the great Advance which had been made by his Men of Science, and in particular, by the Practitioners of Physick and Chirurgery, giving me an account of the many Hospitals, Infirmaries, Clinicks and other Institutions which he had caused to be erected for the relief of his Subjects. One such Hospital, which, he said, was a Model of its Kind, had been opened shortly before my arrival, and it was His Majesty's earnest Wish that I should visit it the very next day.

On the following afternoon, therefore, I set forth in the company of *Reldresal* (for this Name is still borne by His Majesty's Principal Secretary for Private Affairs) whom for the more Despatch, as well as for his greater Convenience in answering my questions, I carried on my left shoulder. The Building lay at a distance of two or three *blustrugs* from *Mildendo*, in open country where it was retir'd from the noises and distractions of



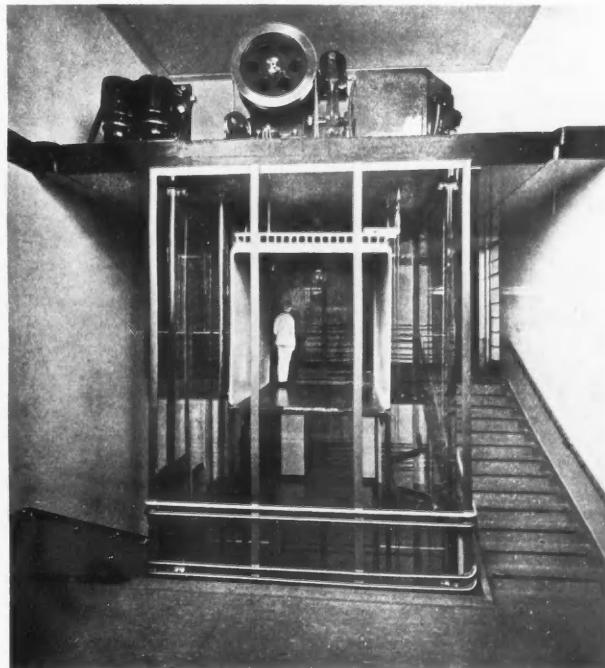
THE CHILDREN'S WARD

The walls are lined with miniature tiles illustrating nursery rhymes

the City. This I found a Circumstance of much Assistance to me since during my Inspection I was able to recline on unencumbered ground. In its Ground-plot this Building might be said to have been shaped like to our letter T. It was three storeys in Height and built of Bricks, of which *Reldresal* informed me that more than a million had been employed in its construction. He pointed out to me that there were no Interior Courts or Quadrangles, so that every room had its windows facing outwards to the Light and Air. The Roofs were flat and on them I saw some whose cure was nearly finished walking or taking their ease in the Sun. The *cor* or Heart of the Building was elevated into a Tower, the Summit of which when I stood erect came nearly as high as my Chin. *Reldresal* explained that this Tower might be likened to the motor part of one of their self-propell'd vehicles in as much as it contained a Mechanical Elevator which rose the full Height of the Building, providing Communication between the different Storeys and controlling, as it were, the Life and Activity of the Hospital. At its Base was the main Entrance approach'd by a flight of stone Steps, and between the twin Doorways I remarked a fine Work of Sculpture by the Artist Jagger, a famous Statuary, who has fashioned several Monuments in the Metropolis commemorating



ONE OF THE OPERATING THEATRES



THE MODEL LIFT, WORKED BY ELECTRICITY

those who had fallen in the late War. The Tower, I should explain, stood at the Junction between the short and long Arm of the T, performing, as it were, the articulatory function of a Joint. At the Extremity of the longer Arm, forming a kind of Hand, was a rounded Appendage, furnish'd with projecting Balconies and appearing to my eyes to be largely constructed of Glass. "That," said *Reldresal*, "is the *Solarium*, where the Patients may sit and enjoy the healing Motions of the Sun's Rays and yet remain sheltered from Noxious Winds." "And when the God is niggard with his Beams," said he, "they employ certain Artificial Lights called *Sunraes* which have the same beneficent Effect."

After thus surveying the Building in perspective I lay down on my side with my head opposite to the short Arm of the T, so that I might look in at the Windows of the Rooms in that part, *Reldresal*, in the mean time, standing in the palm of my hand. In the Ground Storey I saw a handsome Apartment, wainscoted, as he said, in Sycamore and Walnut. A long Table stood in the centre with twelve Chairs ranged about it, for it was here that the Board of Governors met. On the walls there hung Portraits of the Lords Lister, Moynihan and Dawson of Penn, three famous Physicians and Chirurgeons, who were ennobled for their Services. A fourth Portrait was of the gallant lady Florence Nightingale, whom for her Devotion to the Soldiers during one of their Wars they justly revere as a Heroine. All these Pictures were from the brush of the well known Artist, Alfred Praga. As I viewed this Room I had the thought (though I concealed it from *Reldresal*) that I was looking into one of those miniature Houses which in this country are sometimes made for the Delight of Children. Yet ingenious as are the Builders of those little Mansions, I had never seen in them what I now saw before me, the *Fidelity of Life*. In particular, I must mention the surpassingly fine Needlework of the Carpets, Curtains and Chair Coverings, executed, as I was informed, by Her Majesty's Royal School of Needleworkers.



WASHING AND STERILISING ROOM

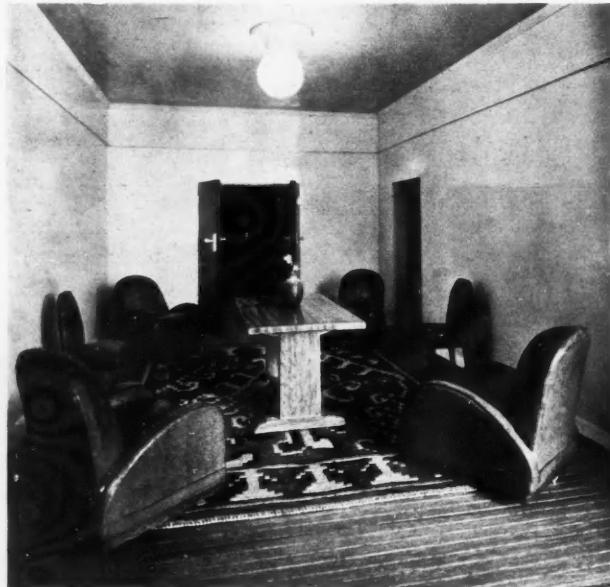
Adjoining the operating theatres which are arranged on the dual plan

Above this Ground Storey, which included also the Secretary's Room, an Ante-room and the Office of the Matron, were situated the Theatres in which Chirurgical Operations are performed. I admired particularly the niceness of the dispositions, arranged on the *dual plan*, each Theatre having close beside it a Nurse's room, and between them a Chamber in which the instruments are wash'd and cleansed. The Equipment of these Theatres was of a steel which will not

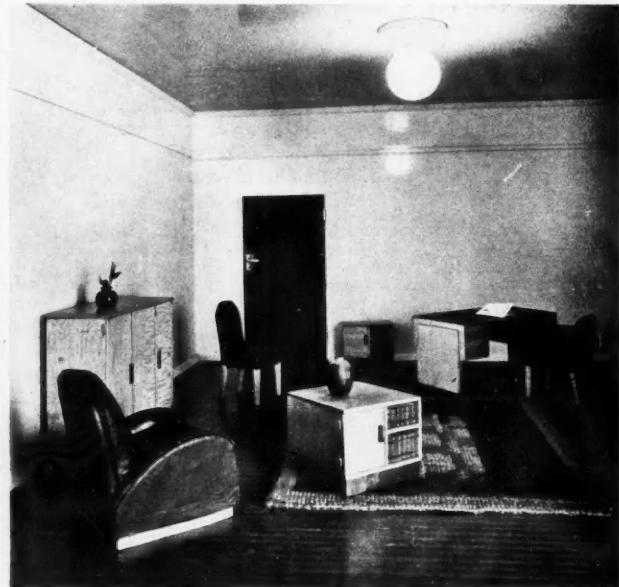
tarnish in the air; the Operating Table was of an adjustable nature and had suspended over it a Light which created no Shadow. It lies not in my power to describe all the wonderful Instruments of Scientifick Invention which I saw in those little Rooms and which were supplied by a Firm of Artificers that excels in work of that kind.

On the Second Storey, above the Theatres, lay the Kitchens, contriv'd with the same Skill and Ingenuity. I ventured to tell *Reldresal* that it was usual in my Country to place the Kitchens in the Lower Parts or Basements of Buildings, whereat he expressed much wonder, enlarging on the Unhealthiness and Inconvenience which must result from such a Practice. "Here," said he, "by being plac'd in the Topmost Storey, the Kitchens are freely ventilated and the Heat and Smells rise up without incommoding the noses of the Patients." I could not but assent to the Wisdom of this Plan, and, having no compelling answer to give him, hid my Confusion by studying their Culinary Instruments and Appliances. Within I saw great Engines of Roasting, Baking and Boiling, of which I scarce knew whether more to admire the Size, the Utility or the Cleanliness. There was also a Machine for Heating of Platters, and, in the Scullery, a Device whereby the Paring of Fruits and Vegetables is performed with much nicety and little labour.

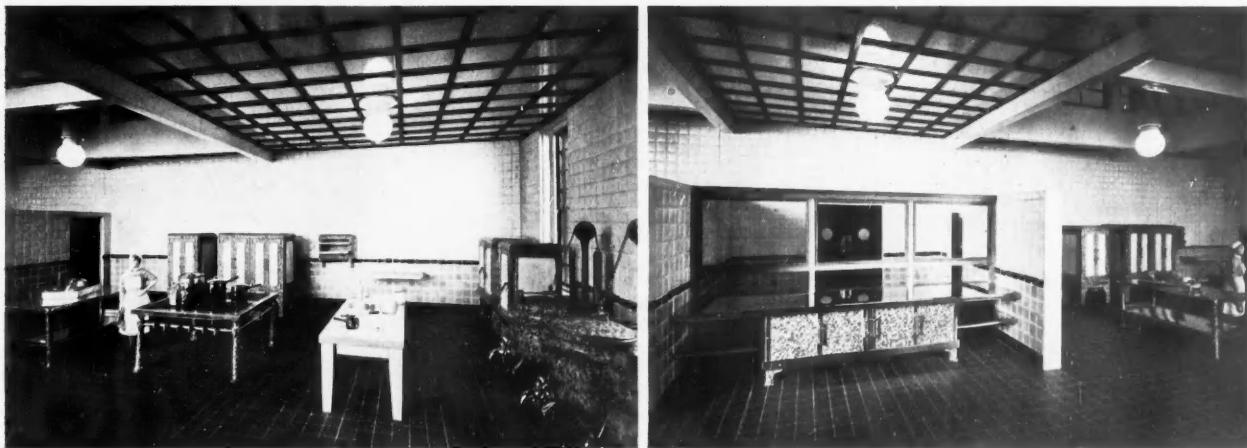
Whilst I was considering this Kitchen, all fairly lined with Tiles, white above the Dado and buff coloured below, *Reldresal* called my attention to a Stir which was taking place before the Entrance to the Hospital. The sudden Pealing of a Bell announced



THE WAITING - ROOM



THE MATRON'S ROOM



TWO VIEWS OF THE KITCHEN

Placed on the top floor and furnished with a complete modern equipment on a miniature scale

the arrival of an Ambulance, from which with much expedition I saw carried out on a Stretcher one who had been knock'd down in the King's Highway. After a short interval, as I looked into one of the Operating Theatres, the door opened and the Unfortunate Man was laid on the Table. I awaited with anxious Expectation the Commencement of the Operation, but *Reldresal*, turning his back on the Window, hinted at the Indelicacy of our witnessing a Sight so distressing, observing that my large Bulk was obstructing the Light from entering the Room. Much confused at the manner in which I had allowed my Curiosity to betray me, I willingly complied with his proposal that we should remove ourselves to another portion of the Hospital. Accordingly, I rose up and walked a few paces beside the longer Arm of the Building, where I could make my Observations with more Propriety.

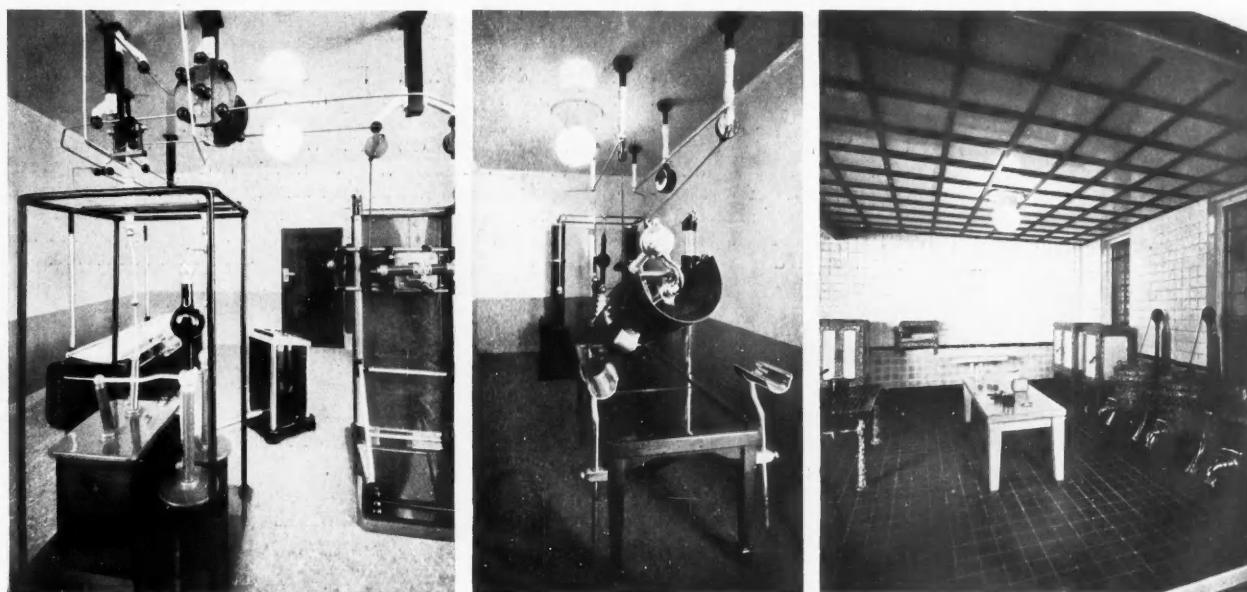
In the Ground Storey of this longer Arm or Wing were situated the Rooms in which they Investigate Fractures and other hidden Injuries by a marvellous Device called the *X-ray*. This powerful Beam, which they command at will, pierces the Body of the Patient without causing him hurt, projecting on to a Screen a Shadow Picture which reveals in an extraordinary manner the whole Anatomy of the Human Frame. The Machines and Instruments with which they perform these Marvels were framed with a Skill which passed my understanding, so that I could no more than gaze at the Perfection of their Workmanship while *Reldresal* attempted to explain to me their Operation. From him I learned that there were three departments : in one the Patient is examined ; in another is kept a Record of the Pictures ; and in a third they generate more powerful Rays which are used with Healing Effects ; but a more particular Description is beyond the Power of my poor Apprehension to command.

Above these Rooms were the Infirmary Wards, that on the first floor for Adult Patients, and that over it, on the second

floor, for Children. In the *Adults' Ward* there were but twelve Beds, a smallness of number on which I remarked to *Reldresal*. He informed me that in the Wards of many Hospitals there were indeed twenty or thirty Beds, but that the latest Practice was to reduce the number, and that I must remember that this was a Model Hospital. He also bade me observe how the Beds were disposed, parallel with the Walls and with a Screen of Glass between each and how Curtains could be drawn across them for greater Privacy. By this plan I noticed that not only did the Light from the windows by falling obliquely cause no Discomfort to the Patient, but that the Heat from the Hot Pipes, or Radiators, was near to his feet instead of his head. The *Children's Ward* was of the same Dimensions, but accommodated differently to suit their different Needs. Here were sixteen little Cots and a Table in the centre for their Toys. The Walls were all lined with Tiles, coloured with Pictures like Tapestries, illustrating some of their Nursery Rhymes. These took such strong hold of my Fancy that I asked the name of the Manufactory where they were made, which I learned was that of W. B. Simpson and his sons, and I resolved that if it were possible I would order some specimens of that work for myself.

It would be wearisome to my Readers, whose patience I have tried too far already, were I to give a longer Account of the Wonders of this Hospital, or to describe further the *Solaria*, the Gymnasium or the Bathrooms, all of which I could not sufficiently admire. By this time, the Evening was drawing on, the Lights were lit and the Outline of the Building was fading into the gathering Darkness, though within the bright Illumination still rendered every detail as clear as in the daytime. *Reldresal* urged that we should take our Departure, and with some reluctance I assented.

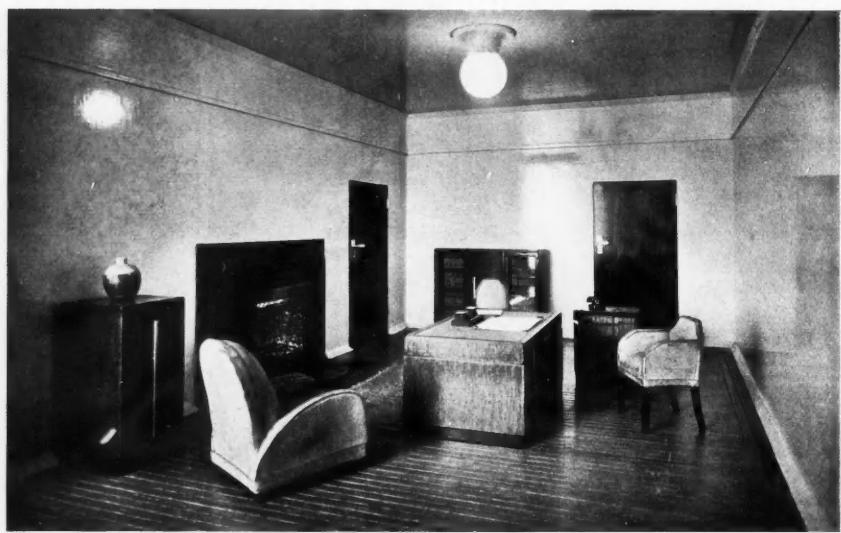
The next day His Majesty summoned me to his Court, curious to hear what most had impressed me during my



THE X - RAY DEPARTMENT : (left) The diagnostic room and (centre) installation for deep therapy
IN THE KITCHEN (right) : The walls lined with miniature buff coloured tiles

Observations. "Sire," I replied, "I have found all things consummately contrived, exceeding even any of the like sort I have seen in my own Country, where, you must know, that the Pursuit of Science is not neglected." As I had hoped this sly insinuation was not without its effect. His Majesty felt his Curiosity probed, and thereupon pressed me to inform him of the State of Medicine with us. It was then that I related to him the History of our Medical Institutions, describing how our Hospitals depended for their Maintenance on Voluntary Support, and extolling the Generosity of our Publick which rendered such a System possible. I went on to inform him of the great Services effected by the Hospital Fund which our late King had instituted in making known to our Citizens the needs of their Fellows. Finally, I touch'd upon the Troubles and Anxieties in which we now find ourselves, yet made it plain to him how set was our Resolve to overcome them. He listened to me with great Attention and no small Wonder, expressing a lively Solitude over our present Difficulties. "I wish that I could help you," he said simply, but with a sincerity that moved me deeply. "Your Majesty, I thank you with all my heart," I replied; then added, "If I could but take back with me the Building which I have been privileg'd to examine, and show to my own people the *Pattern* of a Lilliputian Hospital—but that, alas! is impossible." He thought a moment; then said, "I will have one made like it, but fashioned so that you may carry it away with you," and, as in the Tales of Fairy-land which we read during our childhood, he summoned his Secretary of State and gave immediate Orders for its execution.

This is the Model which is shortly to be exposed to the Publick View, and which corresponds in every part with the Building which I saw outside *Mildendo*. It was designed by the self-same Architect, Mr. Lionel Pearson, who with his partners has erected many hospitals and other famous edifices in the new style which now prevails in that Country. Such was the Enthusiasm aroused by its construction that all those engaged in the work, Eminent Men, Great Ladies, Famous Artists, Well-known Commercial Houses, besides many Private Citizens, vied with one another to create a Building that should be the Model of all Hospitals. I should mention that for my greater convenience, and because I represented to His Majesty that the Hospital was likely to be carried from place to place and made an object of Publick Attention, the Shell was built up out of very light and delicate materials by Messrs. Humphreys, Limited, a firm of Contractors whose wide Experience enabled them to employ a mode of construction wholly foreign to them, yet with no defect of skill or loss of strength. For the same reasons I asked that the Furniture and Equipment in the various Rooms should be fix'd firmly to the



THE SECRETARY'S ROOM

Most of the furniture throughout the Hospital was supplied by Maples



IN THE BOARD ROOM

Floors and Walls that no Displacement might occur should the model be shaken or overturned. It but remains for me to add an expression of fervent Hope that an Object, displaying so much Ingenuity and Patient Workmanship, and on which so much Art and Labour have been expended by that Industrious People, will arouse the Interest which, in my humble opinion, it abundantly merits, and so Assist in the Great Cause of relieving Sickness and Suffering, those twin Evils, common to all Lands and all Nations.

GULLIVER REDIVIVUS.

VISION

Around me is the exiled band
Of those who love as well as I
Grey clouds above an English fen,
And wild geese, winging high;

Dead leaves that rustle under foot,
The swoop of plover on the wing,
The loudness of the quiet woods,
And willows in the Spring.

Beneath a sky of glaring blue
We dream of softly falling rain,
And memories of English scents
Bring ecstasy and pain.

Deep in our hearts we hold our dreams,
Our own throughout all Time to be,
While they who have reality
May look, but cannot see.

LEONORA STARR

OBSERVATIONS ON NATIONAL HUNT RACING

OUTSTANDING PERFORMERS AND EFFICIENT AMATEURS



GRAND NATIONAL HORSES OUT AT NEWBURY

In the Lambourn Handicap Steeplechase many Grand National candidates ran, including Forbra, the last winner. The race was won by Coup de Chapeau, Forbra being unplaced

EXPERIENCE of the first few weeks of the National Hunt season of racing leaves the impression that it has stood up well to the difficulties of the times. It might so easily have been otherwise. Yet from the outset it was made evident that there are just as many (perhaps indeed, more) horses being put to steeplechasing and hurdling as in any recent year. I am afraid attendances have shown some shrinkage, though in no case alarmingly so. One can understand that for many people racing in December has no charms. Apart from the prospect of bad weather, flat racing has only just been done with, and jumping, so to say, has not had time to settle down. Some racecourse executives would, no doubt, vote for a close season between the end of flat-racing and the opening of the new year.

The individual who interests himself in N.H. racing for betting purposes, whether he goes racing or stays at home and uses the 'phone or the wire (or, in these days, attends his Tote Club), will not favour a close season. For it is during December, as a rule, that so many favourites are successful.

It is necessary to make a qualification. Winning favourites under these rules start at more cramped odds than in flat-racing, and, therefore, it is necessary to back more of them in order to show a profit. When the scales are loaded against the backer then he can have a very bad time.

One executive, Derby, tried the experiment of appreciably reducing their admission charges to the public. I think they were satisfied, and I am glad it should have been so because the example is so well worth considering by other executives. It costs too much in these days for the average person to go racing in comfort, reckoning the cost of getting to a meeting, the admission charge (which is a pound or more to Tatteisall's enclosure), the cost of a card, and, of course, the need of some funds for participating in the wagering.

The explanation of the striking successes of dog race tracks is that it costs far less by comparison to gain admission and see the racing in comfort. We have some executives charging more for their inferior class racing than is imposed at the headquarters of racing, Newmarket. They argue that they cannot afford to charge less. They have always charged it, they say, and must continue to do so, plus passing on to the public the entertainment tax. I suggest they should experiment on the lines of the Derby executive, doing all they can to double and treble their attendances, instead of being content with half-empty stands and enclosures. Moreover, it would bring money to the racecourse which is being circulated among starting-price bookmakers. It would help the cause of the racecourse Tote, which needs all the help it can get. It would be some movement, however belated, to get out of a rut. Ardent racing folk may despise the dog racing competition. It is, nevertheless, a fact that it has harmed horse racing, and will continue to do so unless something is done to defeat its influence. It is also true that it has pointed to the importance of clever organisation and what may be called "window dressing."

Let me turn from these domestic questions as they affect National Hunt racing. We have had the Stewards of the National Hunt Committee frowning on the practice of using racing too freely for the purpose of giving horses "schools" in public. They must come schooled and trained to win if they can. It is not quite a reasonable request. The education of a jumper, especially a 'chaser, can never be regarded as complete until he has had experience over the made courses in public. The Stewards are evidently unable to distinguish between horses which are deliberately sent out not to try because considerations of betting, physical fitness, or weight, are not satisfactory, and those which may not be able to win in any circumstances until they can have the help which only a race in public can give.

Summarising my impressions of the past few weeks, I name Golden Miller as the steeplechaser that has impressed me most; Knight of Knockeevan as the best hurdler in the country; and Indian Salmon as the best of the young hurdlers to make their mark on being introduced to the game. I have noted distinct advance among the amateur riders, and, indeed, the general standard of riding, considering the fast pace at which races are run under these rules, is most satisfactorily high.

Golden Miller belongs to Miss Dorothy Paget, who paid a big sum for the horse to the late Mr. Phillip Carr. He is a fine individual and a safe and, at the same time, polished and rapid jumper. We shall hear more of him to his advantage before the season ends, and, not unlikely, he will one day win a Grand National. He is young enough to have the opportunity, should all go well with him.

Miss Paget had an experience of quite another sort when, at Newbury last week-end, she introduced her crack hurdler of last year, Insurance, to steeplechasing. I must say this horse looks the part of a 'chaser, having size and power, while it is reasonable to suppose that a horse with such physical attributes and a brilliant hurdling record would prove capable of beating some apparently moderate horses over fences. But a horse seeing a jump for the first time could not have performed more ingloriously. Finally, after making a series of blunders, he was pulled out of the course. He must inevitably have fallen had not his jockey spared him that. Insurance may, of course, improve with more experience, but I have doubts. He struck me as having no confidence, and, indeed, as having a positive dislike of what he was being asked to do.

Knight of Knockeevan is at the head of the best hurdle handicaps. There is no doubt about his outstanding merit. Indian Salmon is an example of a horse that was of little good as a flat racer, though extremely well bred, being by the St. Leger winner, Salmon Trout (sire of Salmon Leap), from Voleuse, who is very closely bred to Solaro. Indian Salmon twice won over hurdles for the Aga Khan, but failed by a length, at Newbury last week-end, to give 12lb. to one of his own age in Colonel Foljambe's Tolvadden, who had some smart form as a flat racer.

W. Stott, who has been at the head of the winning jockeys more than once, is still very much in the limelight, though he took some time to get going again in the early part of last month. He was associated with those two horses I have been discussing—Golden Miller and Insurance. What a contrast was his experience of those two. G. Wilson, Gerald Hardy, W. Speck (Mr. J. H. Whitney's jockey), Pellerin, and Ingham (over hurdles exclusively) and Ted Leader all retain their form.

Among the amateurs there are quite a number who are showing ability. Captain Brownhill proved his long ago, and it is ever a pleasure to watch this finished and very able race rider over the fences. He has another smart 'chaser in Gay Devil, who at Newbury last week followed up a good win at Sandown Park by winning the United Services Steeplechase. If Drintyre should still be in retirement, then Gay Devil will be a fine substitute for the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown Park next March.

Mr. G. P. Shakerley has latterly come into pleasant prominence. He won the two chief steeplechases at Cheltenham last week—one of four miles on Sanpere, and the other on Society. The latter was one of three survivors in a field of ten. I am sure the Cheltenham fences are far from right and fair. I understand they are to be re-built before the National Hunt meeting in March. Lord Haddington, Sir Geoffrey Congreve, Mr. R. Warden, Mr. "Pete" Bostwick (just arrived from America), Mr. G. Wood, Sir Peter Grant Lawson, Mr. E. Paget and, of course, that generous supporter of winter-time racing, Captain Sassoon are among the prominent amateurs of the moment.

PHILIPPOS.

ENGLISH BRASSWORK IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES

By C. C. OMAN

IT is only necessary to examine a few inventories of household or Church goods to realise the vast quantity of brasswork in use in this country in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The possibility of making brass from native ores was not discovered until the reign of Elizabeth, so that previously all brass in use in England was imported. Though the demand for brass goods was satisfied largely with articles imported ready-made from the Low Countries there seems always to have been in England skilled workers in the baser metals who increased in numbers and importance as the Middle Ages drew to a close.

In London, brass goods were made by members of the gilds of brasiers, coppersmiths and founders. It is difficult to differentiate the functions of these different bodies as none of them seems to have confined their operations to one particular process or alloy. In general, cast work not requiring a specially fine finish was done by the founders; while objects which had to be engraved or gilt were produced by the brasiers and coppersmiths. These last, like the contemporary goldsmiths, would be quite capable of casting small objects when occasion arose. The latoners also mentioned in records seem to have been synonymous with the brasiers, as is shown by the fact that both words are equated to *aerarius* in Friar Geoffrey of Lynn's fifteenth century English-Latin dictionary.

The founders were concentrated in Lothbury, which, according to Stow, owed its name to the loathsome noise which they made as they burnished their goods. Numerically they appear to have been the most important of the three gilds, as in 1469 they produced thirty men for the City watch against the coppersmiths' nine and the brasiers' eight. The founder, however, seems always to have remained merely a craftsman. The wooden patterns from which he cast his work were made for him by an expert carver, and he was not expected to give more than a simple burnishing to his castings. Thus in the contract dated June 13th, 1453, for the tomb of Richard Beauchamp in St. Mary's, Warwick, are associated John Essex, marbler; William Austin, founder; and Thomas Stevyns, coppersmith; and it is pretty clearly indicated that their respective tasks were the preparation of the patterns, the casting, and the engraving and gilding.

Brass, though accounted one of the baser metals, has never declined so far in value as to put it beneath the range of human cupidity. Old brass has always found its way to the melting-pot rather than the rubbish heap. While the few remaining pieces of English mediaeval domestic silversmiths' work have owed their preservation to their being treasured as heirlooms, no species of sentiment has guarded the contemporary household brasswork.

The range of objects for domestic use which were made of brass (as opposed to copper and bell-metal) was comparatively small and consisted principally of candlesticks, chafing-dishes, hanging lavers, and basins. It is sad to have to admit that

none of the mediaeval brass chandeliers remaining in England and Wales can be considered as anything but Flemish. No branch or standard candlesticks have survived at all, but the number of pricket and socket candlesticks is very uncertain owing to the

fact that they are not usually distinguishable from those imported from Flanders. The finest survivor is undoubtedly the splendid early sixteenth century example in the British Museum (Fig. 1) bearing the inscription "+ IN MY BEGINNYGN GOD BE MY —." Though a number of chafing-dishes and lavers discovered in England can be seen in London and provincial museums, it does not seem possible to select any as being demonstrably of native manufacture. No doubt can exist of the English origin of a beautiful cup (Fig. 2) in the Victoria and Albert Museum, bearing the quaint inscription "+ NOLI INEBRIARI VINO IN QVO EST LVXVRIA." It resembles closely the Campion Cup, hall-marked 1500, and a number of other silver-gilt cups ranging in date from about 1500 to 1575.

The decorative qualities of brass have never been so exploited for ecclesiastical use as in the period under consideration. The monumental brasses which are to be found in such numbers are usually the only survivors of the brasswork which once furnished the churches in which they lie. The inventory of the churches of Buckinghamshire in the reign of Edward VI records 152 altar candlesticks, 68 crosses, 30 holy-water stoops, 27 pyxes, besides an eagle lectern at Chesham and a number of incense boats, paxes, etc. It must be remembered that Buckinghamshire was a small and poor county compared with the richer shires of the east and south-west. Though little enough has come down to us, enough survives to give us an idea of what there must have been. It would seem that the art of the brassworker was seen at its best when he was not competing with the goldsmith. The workmanship displayed on brass paxes and crosses which were cheap substitutes for the silver articles compares poorly with that on the lecterns and monumental brasses. Rather more than a dozen brass paxes survive, some cast and others cast and engraved; but not one is comparable to the magnificent example at New College, Oxford. The surviving crosses mostly belong to a type which seems to have prevailed from the late fifteenth century to the Reformation. The design consists of a crucifix figure surrounded by the emblems of the evangelists, flanked by the figures of St. John and the Virgin on detachable branches. The stem is socketed so that it could be fitted on to a base to stand on the altar or a staff to carry in procession. The example in the Victoria and Albert Museum, here illustrated (Fig. 3), has a cross of copper-gilt and a foot of brass. Quite a number of these crosses, in varying stages of incompleteness, can be seen in museums and churches in this country and abroad.

No fewer than forty-two of the mediaeval brass lecterns in this country can be attributed to English founders. All seem to date from about 1480 to 1540, and it is probable that only Flemish importations were in use prior to this period. Though of several different designs—four are double desks, while the remainder are various types of eagle—all display a marked resemblance in the form of the stem and pedestal which is almost always supported by lions sejant. The only lecterns of the English type noted abroad are in St. Mark's, Venice, and the cathedral of Urbino, and it is probable that these are monastic spoil bought by Italians at



1.—CANDLESTICK. Early sixteenth century. From the British Museum



2.—FONT-SHAPED CUP. Circa 1500
From the Victoria and Albert Museum

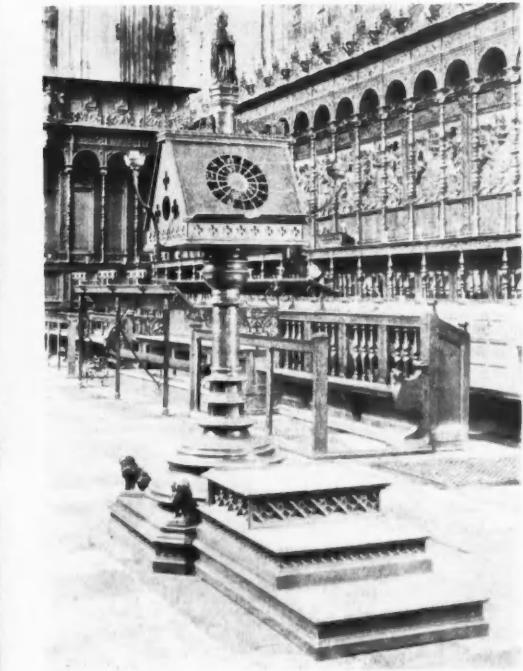


3.—ALTAR CROSS. Circa 1520
From the Victoria and Albert Museum



Crossley

4.—EAGLE LECTERN AT UPWELL ST. PETER, NORFOLK



COLLEGE CHAPEL, CAMBRIDGE

Robert Hacomblen (Provost 1509–28) was the donor



6.—EAGLE LECTERN AT CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

the Dissolution. Each lectern was cast in pieces from a number of wooden patterns, and afterwards soldered together. The same combination of patterns was not used for casting all the lecterns produced in the same workshop, as some founders possessed a stock of patterns from which to choose. By observing the peculiarities of these patterns and the different combinations in which they were used, it is possible to reach the conclusion that all the lecterns were the products of not more than four workshops.

The lectern in King's College Chapel, Cambridge (Fig. 5), is the masterpiece of the most prolific of these workshops, which must have been active for over thirty years. It is surmounted by a statuette of King Henry VI, cast from a pattern by a very capable carver; while the desk, bearing the name of the donor, Robert Hacomblen (Provost, 1509–28), the college arms, Tudor roses and the emblems of the Evangelists, was clearly the work of a very good engraver of monumental brasses.

Though the quality of the casting displayed by these lecterns varies little, their artistic merit differs considerably, as this depended principally on the skill of the carver employed to make the patterns, and of the engraver who added the finishing touches to the castings. All the patterns used by the founder of the King's lectern were not equally good, for the example at Upwell St. Peter, Norfolk (Fig. 4), which may be attributed to him, is far inferior. Its eagle, however, has not been improved by the additions (in a slightly different metal) of a cock's comb as if, by changing it into a cock, to obtain the intercession of the patron saint of the church by a species of blackmail!

The average standard of the English lecterns lies between those of the two already mentioned. The lectern at Christ's College, Cambridge (Fig. 6), may be regarded as typical. It is the work of a different founder, who produced five other lecterns surviving in England besides the one at Venice. Its unique feature is its couchant greyhound feet, allusive to the heraldic supporters of Lady Margaret Beaufort, foundress of the college.

It would be natural to suppose that these lecterns were made in London; but, though some of the patterns may have come thence, the distribution of the surviving examples rather suggests that they were cast in East Anglia. It may be that some are the work of two founders—Reinold Chirche (died 1498) and his son Thomas (died 1527), the former of whom presented a brass lectern to their parish church of St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmunds.

As we have seen, the craftsmen who combined to make these pieces did not confine themselves to the use of a single alloy, and the finest example of their work is not of brass but of gilt bronze. This is the "grate" or "closure" which Henry VII had prepared to surround the tomb which he planned for himself (Fig. 7). The latter was never executed, as Henry VIII entrusted the task to Torrigiano; but an estimate survives, probably drawn up in about 1506. In this, Lawrence Imber, carver, and Drawswerd, Sheriff of York, tender for the making of the patterns; Nicholas Ewen, coppersmith, for the gilding; and Humphrey Walker, founder, for the casting. Professor Lethaby deduces that Imber was the established man and that he probably already held the contract for the "grate." If this is so, it would be highly probable that Ewen and Walker collaborated with him. Walker, indeed, appears to have been edging himself into the Royal service about this time. In June, 1509, he received a payment as an examiner of measures, in the following month he was appointed gunner at the Tower where he is recorded as having cast a gun and shot. His death occurred about May, 1516, when his successor was appointed.

The "grate" itself is undoubtedly one of the finest achievements of Tudor art. It is a glorified rood-screen, of a rather West Country appearance, translated into metal. Though tarnished a dingy black and lacking most of the statues which once filled its niches, it serves as a constant reminder that our late mediæval metalworkers were well worthy of the task of providing a screen to enshrine the work of a friend of Cellini.

7.—WESTMINSTER ABBEY: THE "GRATE" ROUND THE TOMB OF HENRY VII. The supreme effort of the English mediæval brassworkers
From the Survey of Westminster Abbey. By permission of H.M. Stationery Office

THE REAL EAST END

The Real East End. The Text by Thomas Burke. The Lithographs by Pearl Binder. (Constable, 8s. 6d.)

SINCE Mr. Thomas Burke wrote his " Limehouse Nights " we have waited with eager expectation for more pen-pictures of the romance, the squalor and the beauty of that part of our great city which—to him, at any rate—is fullest of colour and drama. But what is " the real East End "? Any part of London east of a line drawn from Islington to Camberwell ? Or any quarter where the poor live ? People who think like this, says Mr. Burke, do not realise that Vauxhall, Camden Town, North Kensington and Battersea are far more truly representative of what they think of as being " East End ." The scenes of Arthur Morrison's " Tales of Mean Streets " were laid in Hoxton, but the majority of his readers still think of them as describing the mean streets of the " East End ."

This is all, as Mr. Burke knows, a vast and complete mistake, and he is undoubtedly right in making the boundaries of his " real East End " coincident with those of the Metropolitan Borough of Stepney. Within those boundaries are to be found a real community living a life of its own, very different from that which those who remember the East End of Blanchard, Jerrold and Doré, with its slums and hovels and gangs of ruffians, would imagine. Commerce and business, Mr. Burke remarks a little sardonically, have accomplished in a few strokes all those reforms which the philanthropic groups spend many years and tons of other people's money in talking about. For fruity samples of " low life " we must nowadays turn elsewhere, and he recommends in preference the minor streets of certain provincial and Scottish towns. Mr. Burke's East End is respectable. It has the genuine spirit of Bohemia. There are those to whom its life may be ugly, but, like modern art, " it is inspired by a gusty strength which comes out in later generations, full but mellow." You will find deeper poverty in other parts of London, and nothing like the amount of drunkenness and crime that you find elsewhere. As for ignorance and illiteracy, Mr. Burke returns an emphatic " No ."

Who, then, are these people whose lives, whose commerce, whose river above all things, he describes with such verve and gusto ? They are from all parts of England and from all parts of the world. The district, in fact, is a small America, and the young East End man of to-day may have a Syrian grandfather and an Irish grandmother, and a German Jew for a father. These people, some of them but lately arrived, some merely vagrant, some of them settled already for generations, have their own places of amusement, their own theatres and music-halls, their own streets with names, some of them, which, in spite of their history, still are poems in themselves. Here are a few : Flower and Dean Street, Goodman's Stile, Gracie's Alley, Sweet Lilac Walk, Three Colt Street, Malabar Street, Glasshouse Fields, and Frying-Pan Alley. In all this world of amusement, of industry, of religion, of domestic life, Mr. Burke is at home, and he has many a first-hand story full of drama and full of colour to report. Take the

tragic story of the young East End girl who upset the red paint upon her holiday dress the day before the holiday started. Or the story of the Lascar sailor and his devotion to the little boy. Told by Mr. Burke it is full of poetry and emotion. But it must not be thought that Mr. Burke sentimentalises his East End unduly or confines himself in any way to the pathos and humour of his East Enders and their lives. This is, indeed, a large part of his book ; but those who are interested in other sides of life—in history, in architecture, in archaeology even—will find much to inform and please them. His reconstruction of the story of Williams, the murderer and suicide, is both thrilling and *macabre*, when we remember that vans and lorries pass night and day over the body of the murderer where it still lies, trussed and staked, at the crossing of Cannon Street and Cable Street.

But enough has been said to show that the general reader has no need to fear boredom in taking up this really delightful book. And, though he may at first be shy of Miss Binder's lithographs, let him try them once again when he has finished the book.

W. E. B.

A CREATOR OF BEAUTY

IT is well known that orchids are difficult subjects to raise from seed. Even when partial success is obtained it will usually be found that the results are confined to a few of the easily grown genera, such as cypripediums, cymbidiums and dendrobiums. But in the world-renowned garden of Sir Jeremiah Colman, at Gatton Park, Surrey, the successful results extend to about forty genera, including several bigeneric hybrids of considerable merit. Such remarkable achievements are mainly due to the keen interest taken by the owner of this extensive and valuable collection ; rare species, elegant varieties and beautiful hybrids share equally his great love for orchids.

We therefore welcome the publication, although for private circulation, of *Hybridization of Orchids, the Experiences of an Amateur*, by Sir Jeremiah Colman, who has been Chairman of the Royal Horticultural Society's Orchid Committee since 1917. This book gives a most interesting account of the thirty-two years that the author spent in the fascinating hobby of raising orchids from seed, including species as well as hybrids, and forms a valuable record of personal observation and experiment as well as achievement, for well over a thousand crosses have been made at Gatton since hybridisation work was first embarked upon.

Concentration upon dendrobiums in early days met with much success, as may be witnessed by the illustration of Dendrobium Lady Colman, which secured the silver-gilt medal for the finest dendrobium in the Ghent Quinquennial Exhibition of 1913. Of the popular odontoglossum, no fewer than 250 crosses have been raised, and it is pleasing to note that two of them were made by H.R.H. the Princess Royal on the occasion of her visit to Gatton in June, 1931.

One of the outstanding successes has been effected through the use of Brassavola Digbyana, due mainly to the exceptionally fine parents used and to their albino nature. In this section mention should be made of Brasso-Cattleya speciosa var. Lady Colman, a flower of remarkable elegance and purity, and of Brasso-Cattleya Gatton Lily, introduced



WATNEY STREET MARKET
From "The Real East End"

in 1918, and still regarded as one of the best of its kind. It is, however, believed that the seedlings of *Lycaste Skinneri* will prove the crowning achievement of this amateur's work. As yet they are all unflowered, but the rapid growth which they have recently made affords hope that flowers will be produced during the next couple of years.

Sir Jeremiah Colman is to be congratulated on the splendid results obtained in his garden, achievements that cannot fail to encourage others to follow the fine example he has set. But he is to be congratulated no less sincerely upon the beauty which he has created and added to the world's store, and upon the fact that this record of his work is written with so much wit and wisdom as to make it a fascinating story to the novice as well as to the expert.

Stamboul Train, by Graham Greene. (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.) AS one might hazard from the title, Mr. Greene's is the sophisticated world when one knows how to travel and how to bargain and how to eat and drink, and where caresses are bought and priced as though they were ready-made clothes of such and such a quality and to be used and discarded with as little emotion. But Mr. Greene—almost, one

feels, in spite of himself—has shown the other side of the matter; there are chinks in the armour of sophistication, gleams of generosity and tenderness in a material world. The wealthy Jew, though he is discouraged too soon, turns back in cold and danger to look for the girl who has spent the night with him; the patriot, though he has little faith and too much opportunism, is sincerely ready to die for his country; the chorus girl gives more than her body and does not easily forget. The Stamboul Express brings the *dramatis personae* together and calls the tune to which they are to move, though the action is completed on a more stable stage. The book is extraordinarily well written, and impossible to put down till the last page is turned, however defeatist, as a whole, is the author's view of human nature.

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST.

ROYAL YACHTS, by Paymaster-Commander C. M. Gavin, R.N. (Rich and Cowan, £4 4s.); **POCAHONTAS**, by David Garnett (Chatto and Windus, 8s. 6d.); **MARIA JANE JEWSBURY**, by Eric Gillett (Oxford University Press, 6s. 6d.). **Fiction:** **GREEN AND BLACK**, by J. G. Skemp (Murray, 7s. 6d.); **THE INCONVENIENT CORPSE**, by David Sharp (Benn, 7s. 6d.).

WINTER FEED FOR GAME BIRDS



A PEN OF PURE MONGOLIANS

THE natural feed of game birds is a very changeable factor which is determined by the climatic conditions not only of the immediate time but of the preceding season. Autumn may yield an abundant natural harvest or a deficiency. We may have a mild late autumn with clear skies so that late growth is long continued, or we may have sharp frosts which turn us all too early into the hard times of winter.

With the example of domestic poultry and cage birds before us we are rather inclined to envision birds' food in terms of grain and insects. Actually the wild bird gets very little true grain, though a plentiful supply of small seeds and fruits at some seasons. As the year ends the bounty decreases and gleaning becomes harder, leaves and vegetable matter other than seed become an increasing factor in the diet, and this continues until spring brings the first green growth again.

The insect supply is probably as inconstant. There is always some insect life except in the hardest frosts, and a turning of dead leaves or old bark usually discloses some forms of life.

The food intake of a bird has, however, to be pretty continuous if it is to keep active and healthy. As all country dwellers know, a prolonged "cold snap," with the ground hard enough to stop hunting, seems to affect wild birds very swiftly. Their reserves are low. The same conditions may affect the egg yield of poultry, but the setback is only temporary. They do not suffer either hunger or ill health from the weather.

The requirements of a balanced ration for poultry and for game birds are very different. A ration containing 20 per cent. protein, a balanced ratio of vitamins A, B and D and simple inorganic salts is sufficient for the rearing of poultry chicks

under wholly artificial conditions. It will not do for game birds. They need a higher ratio of proteins to carbohydrates, and they need a very different balance of vitamins.

The natural factor which elaborates the vitamins in living creatures, whether animal or vegetable, is sunlight. As the hours of sunlight diminish so the natural nutritive value of pasture declines. Milk produced by cows fed on late growth shows a decline in its vitamin content. This can be restored by artificial irradiation, but otherwise will not recur till the young growth of spring begins again.

The bird is mainly dependent on its food for its vitamin supply, for the band of rays which control vitamin formation in the animal body are stopped by feathers.

Now it is a very noticeable factor in connection with partridge disease that the incidence mounts in autumn and increases in the early winter months.

We have here two probable factors, possibly three, all converging to produce the same effect. Firstly, there is an increasing shortage of adequate natural food. Secondly, the vitamin factors in this available food are at a relatively low ebb. Thirdly, where a healthy bird has to scratch hard for a living a diseased one will not have the available reserves of energy to fight against shortage. It is a cumulative effect.

The effect of a properly balanced vitamin scale on worm infections in poultry has already been noted. The natural resistance is increased and acute parasitic invasions are overcome. A grain feed is definitely lacking in the fat soluble vitamins A and D, and it is worth considering the functions of fats in bird foods. Fat is an energy producer, not a muscle builder such as a proteid; but in the case of partridge disease we are dealing with birds already full grown but, owing to a worm invasion,

under-nourished. By giving shredded suet or animal fat in addition to grain or some form of starch, we are providing not only a concentrate of assimilable nourishment, but we are providing those essential vitamins missing from grain, and we are providing reserves of energy against the hard weather.

The Eskimo lives largely on fat, and no other food enables them to withstand the Arctic cold and the Arctic endless night.

Delicate cage birds whose natural home is in summer regions are usually fed throughout the English winter with chopped suet or some additional fat factor. In the garden we spread fat for the bird table in hard weather.

All authorities are agreed on the importance of feeding partridge stock in the winter. In these days of partridge disease it is all the more important to feed them properly, and it is improbable that any ration deficient in fat and fat soluble vitamins will adequately replace the natural balanced diet of the healthy bird.

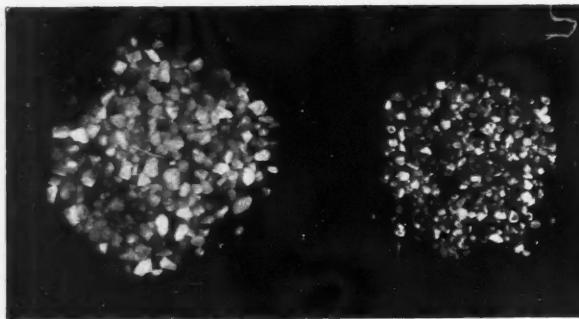
Out of the 40 per cent. insect diet of the partridge, it is probable that 10 to 20 per cent. consists of fat or glycogen from the bodies of grubs and insects. The ants' eggs beloved of the keeper for his partridge chicks are typical concentrations of animal fat in a slightly changed form. We may as well adapt our winter feeding to these strongly indicated nutritional lines. As our outside feeding is supplementary to the birds' daily intake of natural food, a far higher proportion of fat can be used than would be embodied in a complete ration for birds in confinement. And if one may draw an inference from the tits and small birds at the garden bird-table, chopped raw suet eaten neat has no untoward effects even if, as far as one can see, nothing else at all is eaten.

H. B. C. P.

CORRESPONDENCE

GRIT FOR PARTRIDGES

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE"
SIR,—Possibly the enclosed photograph of grit taken from the gizzards of two birds in widely separated counties may interest those who are now experimenting by putting down grit. From the examination of a considerable number of gizzards since September 26th, it



A COMPARISON OF GRIT IN PARTRIDGES' GIZZARDS

Perthshire (edge of moor) 424 bits Norfolk. Hen, 14½ oz., old bird.
of grit, weight : 88 grains 359 bits of grit, weight : 26 grains

appears clear that where birds can obtain hard white or pink quartz grit it is taken in preference to any other kind available—this is particularly noticeable in birds from Angus, Ayrshire, Argyll, Dumfries, Banffshire—some birds from Angus contained quartz grit weighing 65 to 68 grains.

In certain cases in the southern counties a bird obtaining large pieces of available grit consumes less, and the weight of grit is equally less than average, but there appears to be no guide or deduction to be drawn as to an individual bird's requirements. A Norfolk bird contained 820 very small pieces weighing 54 grains; a Hampshire one 711 bits, equally small, weighing 47 grains; a young hen, 14 oz., contained 167 large bits, 24 grains in weight; while another shot in the same covey, had 498 bits, 41 grains weight.

It may, perhaps, be suggested that where the experiment of putting down grit is carried out, best results might be anticipated from the hard and sharp grit which best assists the grinding up of food in the gizzard, and its action, perhaps, destroys injurious larvae in the process; white quartz grit, owing to its hardness and sharp edges, should supply this best, and, being easily seen, is more likely to be picked up quickly.—M. P.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IN THE COUNTRY

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE"
SIR,—In your issue of December 3rd Mr. Frank Slater makes comparisons between private plant and public supply, and draws the conclusion that private plant is a cheaper source of electricity. I would like to make a few observations upon his figures.

Calculations of this kind must always be treated with reserve owing to the variations in local conditions. For example, his figure of 9d. per unit for public supply is higher than usual. Where a two-part tariff is available the average cost of electricity for lighting only in country districts may be as low as 3d. or 4d. per unit, and in my own case has not exceeded 2½d.

To take a typical example, a company supplying a large area in Lincolnshire and adjacent counties offers a two-part tariff which, assuming the house to have a floor area of 8,000 sq. ft., would give the following cost:

Fixed charge £22 10 0
Unit charge, 2,500 units at 1d. 10 8 4

£32 18 4

Total cost per unit, 3.16d. Normally a house of this size would require 2,500 units per annum for lighting alone, which is only one of the many services which electricity can provide.

A public supply on the two-part tariff would, however, make available unlimited additional electricity for heating, cooking and other purposes at a total cost of 1d. per unit, new fields in which the great advantages of constant and continuous supplies of current are specially apparent.

A large part of the cost of current obtained from supply authorities is incurred in making available to each customer a supply which they are required to maintain continuously whether electricity is being used or not. The fixed charge in a two-part tariff, as in the case

of Post Office telephones, represents payment for this essential service and is usually much less than the fixed cost of a private plant. Such a tariff is essentially equitable and enables the full advantage of a public supply to be given to consumers.

Turning to the other side of the account—the cost of a private plant—Mr. Slater tends, like so many others in this connection, to underestimate the allowances necessary for depreciation, maintenance and labour in running and supervising a private plant. Moreover, the estimated consumption makes no allowance for units lost in charging and discharging the battery; nor for the gradual deterioration of the engine. An addition of £30 to the first estimate of annual cost would be a moderate allowance for these items and would bring the cost per unit to 9d.

Moreover, the owner of private plant has invested a considerable capital sum in equipment which, besides barring the user against any extensions of electric service, may become obsolete in the sense of having little or no market value in a few years' time.

Your contributor remarks that "it would seem essential for a prospective consumer to employ an expert so as to avoid an unforeseen liability." This is excellent advice, but it should be noted that unforeseen liabilities apply only to private plant, not the least advantage of a public supply being that the consumer's entire liability is covered by a perfectly simple and definite contract.

The extension of the public service of electricity into the rural districts has only just begun. As development proceeds electricity from the public mains is certain to become cheaper, as it has done in urban districts. There is no prospect of any similar reduction in the cost of current from private plant.

The fact that numbers of private plants are scrapped as soon as the public supply becomes available is probably the best proof of the true economy of public supply. Those who have once enjoyed the advantages of a public supply rarely revert to the antiquated and obsolete system of supply from a private plant with all its attendant worries and disadvantages.—DOUGLAS NEWTON.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE REFORMATION

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE"
SIR,—This photograph was taken in Southwell Minster of the pageant that was presented

there the week before Christmas. This was the first time since the Reformation that an English cathedral had been used for the performance of a Nativity play. It was very beautiful, and people came from all over the country to see it. It was given in the Norman nave in front of the Decorated screen.

The players were the well known company from St. Helen's Gate, Burton, Lincolnshire, and under Mr. C. A. Claye's direction they presented his "Joyous Pageant of the Holy Nativity."—MABEL HICKING.

A SALMON IN A MIDLAND VILLAGE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE"
SIR,—For many months the remains of a large fish hung from a tree on a farm in a North Midland village. This fish was found in a trout stream by a gamekeeper, who, thinking it was a pike, straightway shot it. Hanging head downwards from a branch, the dead body was pecked by fowls, gnawed by cats, and shrivelled by the heat. However, the skeleton and much of the skin remained, and, recently, these were seen by an expert pisciculturist, who has identified these remains as belonging to a male salmon.

It is believed that this salmon must have entered the trout stream by travelling up the Trent and then following one or another of that river's tributaries. The Trent itself is about forty miles from the spot where the specimen was obtained, while the sea coast is fully sixty miles distant.

In years gone by, salmon regularly ascended the Trent to their inland spawning grounds; but that was a long time ago. However, as the species is believed to return to the same spawning ground year after year, it may be permissible to assume that this particular specimen has travelled along the same watercourse throughout a succession of years.—CLIFFORD W. GREATOREX.

CORMORANT IN A CEMENT WORKS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE"
SIR,—As it is rarely that we are privileged to witness a cormorant far inland, the appearance of one of these large black birds in a local cement works (Rochester) might be of interest. I watched the bird recently just before nightfall circling round the various buildings, where it ultimately settled on the top of a chimney stack 200ft. high. The conspicuous bird was obviously in difficulties in its endeavours to obtain a footing on the mass of crumbling flue dust which had accumulated at the top of the shaft. In the failing light I could detect the bird just settling down when it must have caught the exit gases emitted from the shaft for it rolled over, apparently stupefied, and fell. Some fifty feet down it appeared to recover and, after a couple of somersaults in mid-air, alighted on the adjacent marsh before making a bee line for the Thames Estuary.—GEO. J. SCHOLEY.



THE NATIVITY PLAY IN SOUTHWELL MINSTER

A WHITE HARE ON FOULNESS ISLAND

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Some three months ago a white hare was observed running about on New England, one of the small islands comprising that corner of South-east Essex known as Foulness Island. In reality four islands form this group, small bridges connecting them. New England is the centre island.

Naturally, there was some speculation as to whether this white hare was a genuine albino or a member of the "variable" race fairly common in Scotland and the North of England. The variable hare, as is well known, sheds its fawn brown coat in the autumn and assumes a more or less white coloration. The Foulness hare, however, owing to the isolation of its habitat, must have been of an indigenous race.

Later on the hare was captured—by whom and by what method it would not be fair to state; in any case, it proved to be a pure albino, fully grown, with pink eyes and genuinely white.

The only other record of a white hare in this part of Essex is that of a partially white specimen which was shot at Paglesham sixty years ago. Paglesham is only a mile or two from New England, but is on the other side of the Roach River. Occasionally perfectly black hares are shot, but this is the first record of a purely albino specimen.—A. LAURENCE WELLS.

BEFORE THE DAYS OF BAKING POWDER

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I should be pleased to know if you or any of your readers can tell me anything about the instrument which I enclose. It was given to me by an old friend, who, I may say, by the way, has served four generations of my family and has been employed by us continuously for over half a century. He calls it a "blow-pipe," and states that he remembers his grandmother using a similar instrument in her cooking for raising pastry in the days before baking powder was generally available.

The indentations on the butt end indicate teeth marks, and suggest that my friend's description is correct. I cannot, however, think why such a humble culinary article should have been so highly ornamented.

I should be glad to know if this enquiry elicits any replies.—MALCOLM CASTLE.

A WARNING TO AIRMEN

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—You may like to see this photograph from Whipsnade. It shows the figure of a lion cut out of a chalk down, after the manner of the White Horse, or the Long Man of Wilmington. Its object is to warn airmen that they are passing over the Whipsnade Zoo and so prevent them from flying too low and thus frightening the animals. You will notice that a certain amount of building up has been necessary at the top of the lion's head. The figure is, of course, not yet complete, as a

good deal of turf yet remains to be cut away.—N. VINES.

"THE MAN LOADED WITH MISCHIEF"

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Having read with interest your correspondence on the subject, I am sending you a photograph of what I believe to be the genuine sign of The Man Loaded With Mischief. I well remember the house on the Madingley Road, from Cambridge to Toft, Hardwick and Dry Drayton. I have had the photograph for quite thirty years. No doubt the neighbourhood is changed by now.—J. J. RHODES.

[Our correspondent's picture is most interesting, but it struck us, from personal memories of the old sign on the Madingley Road, that it was, in some minor respects, different from that which we remembered, especially in respect to the buildings in the background. We therefore sent it to the Rev. C. E. Roe, who, as a young man, painted the signboard as it was when the inn was pulled down. He kindly replies: "The photograph appears to be in most, if not all, respects identical, so far as the figures are concerned, with the sign of the Man Loaded with Mischief on the Madingley Road, Cam-



THE MAN LOADED WITH MISCHIEF.

WAS THIS THE MADINGLEY ROAD SIGN BOARD?

Abingdon. Breakfasts cost 2s. or 3s., and suppers from 2s. to 4s. At each place "sope" was bought, costing 4d. The charge for the oxen varied from 5s. 4d. to 7s. At Meere watering the oxen cost 6d.; a different kind of water (*aqua vite*) for Thomas Heed cost 4d. Beer at different places, 6d. to 16d., and one item is "Sugar candy 2d." The sum total for the journey was £3 7s. 10d. This bill is printed in full in Hutchins's *History of Dorset* (Vol. II, page 214) *sub Catherston*, which was a manor of the Wadhams. The whole amount of the building is given at £10,810 7s. 8d., with kitchen furniture and college plate £11,360. All this sum, we are told, was contributed by the foundress from her own purse, without assistance or subscription from any person. The east window of the college chapel cost £1,500. I was much struck by its similarity to the east window of Ilminster Church, the greater part of which was built by Sir William Wadham of Merifield soon after 1450. Also the pillars of the ante-chapel at Oxford

correspond with those in the nave of the same church. About fifty years ago the Wadham authorities purchased the old oak communion table from Ilminster, at which Sir Nicholas Wadham and his lady, Dorothy, had shared in the sacrament, for £100—a stone altar being given to take its place: but this was declared illegal and could not be consecrated. Merifield is now a solitude, but the moat remains, enclosing about 2 acres, with the stump of a tower and a few ruined walls. The actual site of the house is in the parish of Ashill, but most of the surrounding park, over two miles in circuit, belonged to Ilton. In the thirteenth century Merifield was the possession (by purchase) of Falk de Bermyngham, one of the earliest Members of Parliament.—W. LOCKE RADFORD.

WADHAM AND MERIFIELD

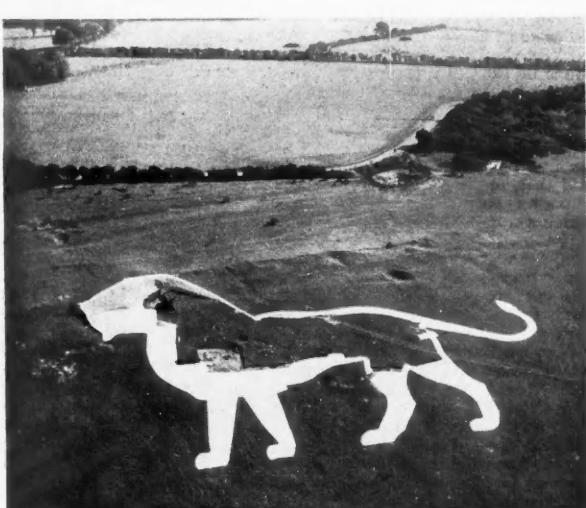
TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—*A propos* Mr. Hussey's excellent article on Wadham College, not only were masons sent from Somerset, but oxen also travelled from Merifield to haul the stone for the building. Before me is a note of charge laid out by John Clay going towards Oxford from "Merifyde," 1610. It would appear that the journey took six days, the stages being "Evill" (Yeovil), Meere, Amesbury, Hungerford and

WADERS STEP DANCING

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—"Fleur-de-Lys," I think, would find that all waders step dance when seeking food, only his flamingoes had green grass instead of mud on which to dance. The action of the head and bill was an endeavour to listen for the movement of worms or insects in the ground. I have frequently watched a small company of jack snipe on a damp part of a paddock close to a stone wall that allowed me to approach within a couple of feet of the snipe and watch them from over the wall. They would execute a little dance and then move their heads close to the ground, still continuing their steps; then, suddenly, they would pause and immediately commence probing in the damp mud. Green plover will do the same on a grassy meadow, dancing and listening—alas! in Westmorland accompanied by several gulls, that at once robbed the green plover of the worm it had captured. Yet the green plover would continue its hunt, only again and again to be compelled to relinquish its prey to the robber gull. Yet the gulls, belonging to several species, would dance upon the long stretches of mud flats left bare by the tide, to bring to the surface many marine insects and creatures hiding beneath their dancing feet.—PHILLIPPA FRANCKLYN.



THE LION OF WHIPSNADE



SEATED 'MID "RURAL WALKS"

THE ESTATE MARKET BROCKWOOD PARK

MR. BERTRAM H. G. ARKWRIGHT has requested Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley to sell Brockwood Park, between Winchester and Petersfield, with 628 acres. It was the home of a Georgian novelist, Mrs. Charlotte Smith, writer of *Emmeline, the Orphan of the Castle*; *Ethelinda, or the Recluse of the Lake*, and *Rural Walks in Dialogues, intended for the Use of Young Persons*. Bramdean Common is close to the estate. Her husband made experiments in scientific farming, thereby drawing down on himself "the illiterate sneers of farmers and the obstinate awkwardness of labourers." The Earl of Malmesbury was an owner of Brockwood, which is a Georgian residence (illustrated above).

Recent sales by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley include: FitzGeorge Coombe estate, Kingston, 700 acres; 3,800 acres of Sir Felix Cassel's Putteridge Bury estate, Hertfordshire, comprising part of the agricultural portion of this estate, with Messrs. Rumball and Edwards; Great Sanders estate, Sedlescombe, 223 acres, with Mr. H. B. Baverstock; Cator Court, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, Devon, 520 acres, for the Earl of Dartmouth; Brantwood, Coniston, 450 acres, the home of John Ruskin; 852 acres of the outlying portions of Sir Henry F. Knightley's Fawsley estate, Northampton, with Messrs. Powell and Co.; Nunraw, East Lothian, 1,300 acres; 255 acres of Syston Park, Grantham; Boarzell, Hurst Green, 300 acres, with Messrs. Newell and Burges; the greater part of the remaining agricultural portion of Maidwell and Draughton, Northampton, 2,350 acres; Kingthorpe estate, Pickering, 1,223 acres; and 168 acres of High Hilden, Tonbridge, with Messrs. Langridge and Freeman.

REAL ESTATE ADVANTAGES

A WEEK ago we quoted the opening words of Messrs. John D. Wood and Co.'s annual report, and as the firm's comments on the general economic position and the fundamental attributes of real estate concisely and accurately define them, we add a few more remarks from the report.

"Rightly, emphasis is laid on the stability of investments in real property, the tangibility of the security and its freedom from arbitrary fluctuations in yield. . . . It is unhappily the fact that this year some of the most urgent sales of real estate have been consequent on difficulties experienced through the collapse of certain concerns, or the continued absence of any income from the capital locked up in them. The shareholder's real estate, regrettably we say it, sometimes his cherished home, has been the only substantial and saleable asset left him. Apart from the results of commercial and kindred investments, the great reduction of the rate of interest on gilt-edged securities has been a disturbing factor for a good many people, who now find their income much lessened."

"The reactions of the glut of cheap and practically unusable money on real estate yields are obvious, and the tendency of rents is to a lower level. But that level is still appreciably higher than the yield from a similar capital outlay on gilt-edged stock. This difference is 'earned,' inasmuch as real estate calls for management, either personally or, preferably, through expert agents, and there is also the fact that it is not so easily negotiable

as gilt-edged stock. Buyers or tenants must be sought and selected, and there are legal and other costs and formalities to be taken into account. In other words, the higher return from real estate is truly 'earned,' for the holder of real estate in any form cannot, like the holder of 'gilt-edged' stock, just invest his money and wait for the automatic delivery to him of the resultant interest. However, as we have hinted, expert management can relieve an owner of much of the worrying details of ownership, and we may add that the charge for such expert assistance is trifling compared with its advantages. Our property management department has charge of London and country properties of all descriptions and is absorbing more and more of the available space in our large premises in Berkeley Square.

"Reference to this central spot in Mayfair brings to the mind the vicissitudes of certain prominent sites and properties suitable for re-development. Sunderland House remains in the market, after promising competition at our recent auction. Premises in Berkeley Square, that were to have been dealt with as part of a comprehensive scheme, have to some extent been temporarily or otherwise dealt with, and elsewhere there has been some progress—as much as might be expected in a time of unusual perplexity—towards that commercialisation which seems destined to alter much of the hitherto residential character of London's fashionable quarter. Town houses have been fairly easy to let, and some satisfactory sales have been arranged.

"The market for country properties has been helped by the growing appreciation of the value of land as an investment. The firm has, with other agents and in sole agency, been instrumental this year in the transfer of many important landed estates, among them: outlying portions of Lord Egerton of Tatton's estate, Cheshire; Hurstmonceux Castle, and the purchase of Hurstmonceux Place estate; Ampfield estate in Hampshire; Beresford Dale estate, Derbyshire, famed for its association with Charles Cotton; Tingrith Manor, Bedfordshire; Swainston, in the Isle of Wight; Little Green estate, over 5,000 acres in Hampshire; Marbury, Cheshire; Waresley Park, Bedfordshire; outlying portions of Bulstrode Park, Gerrards Cross; Bosworth Park, Leicestershire; portions of Fawley Court estate, Henley-on-Thames; and Randalls Park, Leatherhead. It is gratifying to be able to record the purchase of many fine houses for private occupation, and to add that, for small residential freeholds near London and the large centres, there has been no lack of enquiries."

FUTURE OF FARM VALUES

EAST ANGLIAN and other estates, private and corporate, of great extent are managed by Messrs. Bidwell and Sons, whose annual report states: "Perhaps the chief feature of the land market in 1932 has been its stagnation. Landowners, large and small, have been holding on where they could do so, in the hope of better times, and the majority of the land that has come publicly on the market has been under forced sale. Some good properties have, however, changed hands, but usually at prices which compare very favourably with the sensational low prices so often quoted in the Press. Curious though it may seem, there are more buyers than sellers of the best class of land to-day. It is all a question of

price and the type of land, and there are undoubtedly good buyers to-day for good farms well let to satisfactory tenants."

"With the heavy fall in prices of all classes of agricultural land there may be a tendency to class more or less together good properties, at low levels of price, with rubbishy properties, because the prices of both happen to be at low levels. This is the only real connection between the two classes. The good properties will eventually appreciate very considerably in value, but the poor properties will always only appear to be cheap. We would close this review of 1932 on a note of optimism, but with a warning as to the need of careful discrimination."

SALES AND OFFERS

THE late Dr. Atwood Thorne's house at Caerleon, enclosed in a battlemented wall and about 4 acres, was offered by Messrs. Davis and Sons at Newport, Mon. Bidding started at £1,500 and rose to £1,900, when the property was withdrawn. The pink lustre ware, collected by the late Dr. Atwood Thorne, was sold to a local buyer for £80.

Mr. Reginald C. S. Evennett reports the following sales of residences on the Surrey, Sussex and Hants borders, totalling £40,000: Ashurst, Fernhurst, a "Voysey" mansion with four cottages and farmery; Brackendene, Fairdene, and Somersal, Hindhead; Heathside, Grayshott; Holmesley, The Platt, Derby House, and Malabar, Haslemere (the last-named with Messrs. Anderson and Co.); New House, Lynchmere; Greenways, Bramshott; Rondle Wood, Rogate (with Messrs. Hillary and Co.); and Lower Hearn, Churt.

Messrs. Collins and Collins have sold the lease of No. 27, Chester Terrace, a double-fronted modernised dwarf house.

Lord and Lady Denbigh have disposed of a little house in a short cul-de-sac off South Audley Street. The agents were Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff and Messrs. Garland-Smith and Co.

Messrs. William Willett, Limited, have sold No. 30, Trafalgar Square, Chelsea, a new residence; also, subsequent to the recent auction, through their Hove office, the freehold No. 47, The Drive, Hove. They have also sold the Cadogan lease of No. 12, Culford Gardens, Sloane Square, with Messrs. Turner Lord and Ransom; and the Westminster lease of No. 20, Chester Street, Belgravia, with Messrs. Waller and Co.

Messrs. Robinson, Williams and Burnands have sold Nos. 18, Kensington Court; 6, Cromwell Place, South Kensington; 17, Westbourne Terrace; and the freehold, 58, Ennismore Gardens, South Kensington (this in conjunction with Messrs. Howell, Son and Bonnin).

The FitzGeorge Coombe estate, mentioned last week, was not, as we were informed by a correspondent last week, granted to the late Duke of Cambridge by the Crown. Most of the estate was purchased by the Duke of Cambridge in 1837, from the Earl Spencer. The rest of it was acquired by purchase from various vendors.

Messrs. Hampton and Sons report having effected, for the second time in 1932, the sale of half a mile of trout fishing in the Test, at Bere Mill, near Whitchurch. This is some of the best water on the river, and the same stretch a few years ago changed hands at a record price under the hammer.

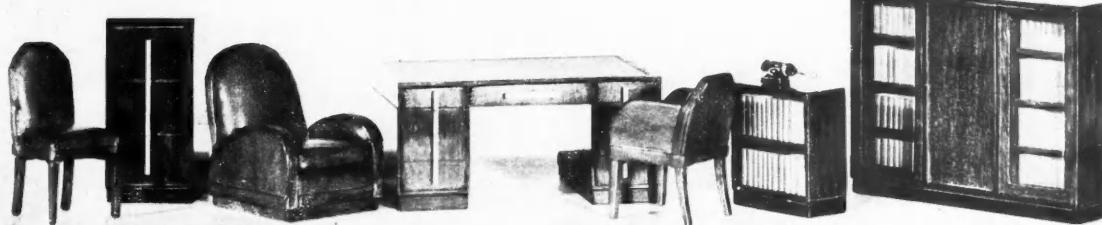
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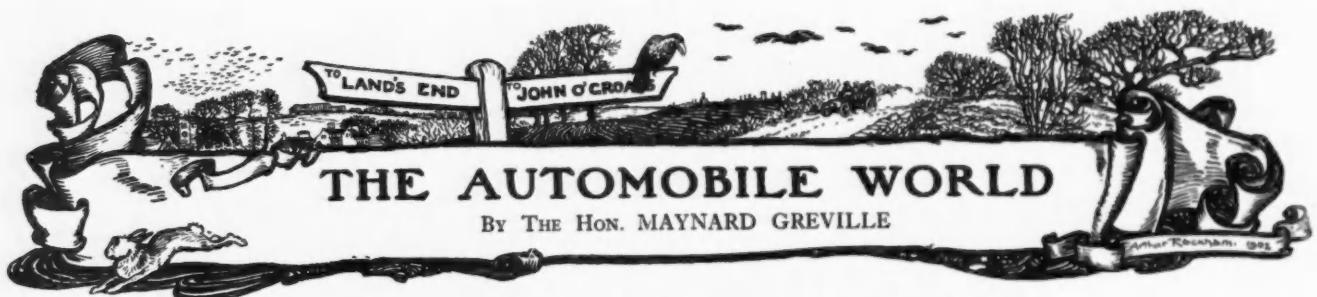
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THE MONTE CARLO RALLY

THE Monte Carlo Rally is rapidly becoming a classic event in the motoring world. It was the first of the great rallies which have become so popular everywhere, and which gave rise to similar events in various other countries. The Rally starts on January 21st and ends on January 25th. The International Sporting Club have received no fewer than eighty-three entries, of which forty, or nearly half, are British.

John o' Groats, which is 1,963 miles from Monte Carlo, seems to be the most popular starting point, as it has been chosen so far by no fewer than twenty starters, among them being Mrs. Montague Johnstone on a Riley, Mr. Platt and Mr. Wright on M.G.'s, and Commander G. N. Maltby on a Riley. Mrs. Johnstone was the winner of the Wakefield Trophy in the trials organised by the Women's Automobile Sports Association.

Mr. V. E. Leverett drives a Riley from Bucharest. The car has already left this country, and Mr. Leverett will be remembered as the winner of the light car class in the 1931 Rally. Mr. Prestwich, on an M.G., is another starter from Bucharest.

Umea is being used as a starting point by Mrs. Raymond Gough on a Riley and Mrs. Dennison, also on a Riley. The former was the winner of the Ladies' Cup in the Scottish Rally. Mr. J. Hobbs, on a Riley, is starting from Tallin; and an interesting car which is also using this point as a base is the Gardner Diesel-engined Bentley, which will be driven by Lord de Clifford. This car has one of the Gardner compression-ignition engines which have been so successful in large commercial chassis fitted in a long three-litre Bentley chassis. It has a large saloon body, and has given a good account of itself in various events for some time.

Mr. Rupert Riley will be one of the ten starters from Athens, which is considered the most difficult point, as, until 1932, no one had succeeded in getting through to Monte Carlo from here on time. He is, of course, driving a Riley, which is

one of the Army models—that is to say, an open four-seater which has been specially designed to overcome difficult roads. Starting in the early morning of January 31st, he will have to cover 2,351 miles over almost impassable roads in just over four days.

In the last Rally, driving a 9 h.p. Overseas Riley Tourer, he was one of the few who succeeded in getting through from Athens on time, coming fifth in his class. At their best the Balkan roads are colonial tracks, and in winter whole sections of the road and bridges are sometimes washed away by floods; while the Dragoman Pass, north of Salonika, is frequently blocked by heavy snow. In addition to natural hazards, I understand that in certain parts of the Balkans the inhabitants have a disconcerting habit of removing bridge timbers to use in their fires in cold winters, and that, for this reason, every bridge has to be examined before it is crossed.

On all the important routes competitors will meet with ice and snow, and for miles in Sweden last January the road was covered with ice three inches thick, on which rain was falling.

In addition to standard safety fittings like Triplex glass, specially strengthened springs, and so forth, cars will be equipped with special ice chains, several sets of ordinary chains, picks and shovels, blocks and tackle, and special wind screen wipers capable of clearing snow and sleet from the screen under almost any conditions.

An interesting feature of the Rileys which are coming from Bucharest and Athens is the immense size of the tyres, to increase the clearance and comfort, which are being used. Mr. Rupert Riley has huge Goodyear balloon tyres on his Riley, while Mr. Leverett has his Gamecock Riley fitted with equally large Dunlops.

ROUND THE TOWN RACES

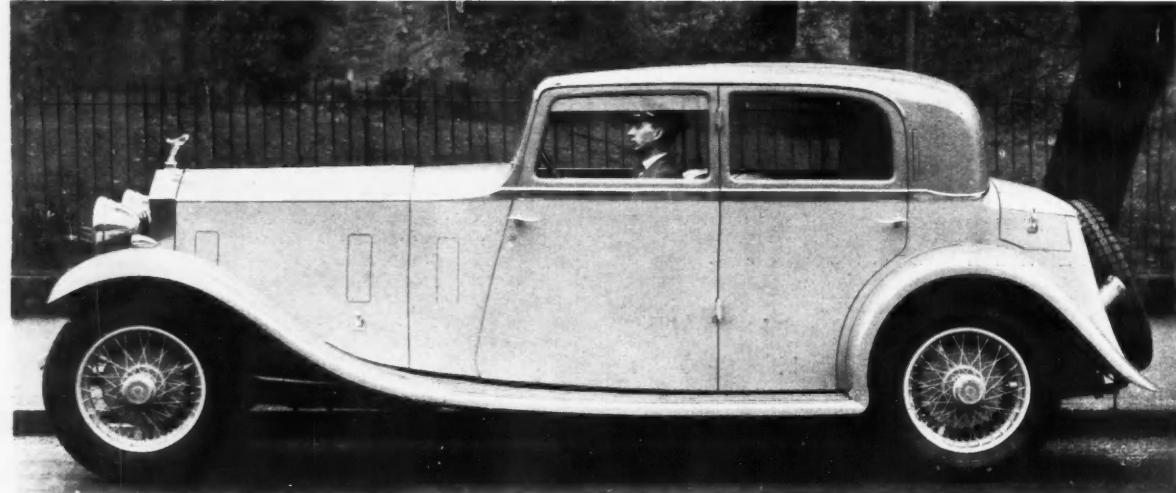
WHAT can best be described as "round the town races" are as yet unknown to the British public, though they have provided thrills for the Continent

for some time. The Monaco Grand Prix is the most famous of these, and they provide tremendous excitement for the spectators. To see a little stripped racing car charging through narrow streets at 60, 70 or 80 miles an hour and roaring along a short straight with houses on either side, is far more thrilling than any track race, as can be imagined. Though Brighton is making a gallant effort to promote a special Bill in Parliament to allow a race of this sort in the south coast resort in 1934, the Isle of Man—which is, for this purpose, self-governed—is to have the first, which will be known as the Manx Round the Town Race.

The Royal Automobile Club, who are promoting the race, have now issued official details. It will be held in Douglas, Isle of Man. There will really be two races, to be known as the "Mannin Beg" and the "Mannin Moar"; and the dates will be Wednesday and Friday, July 12th and 14th, respectively. Practising will take place on Thursday, Friday and Monday, July 6th, 7th and 10th respectively, between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and noon. The "Mannin Beg" race will be for cars in racing trim up to 1,500 c.c., including supercharged cars of that capacity. Two-seater bodies will be obligatory, and mechanics must be carried; otherwise the cars will be subject to as few restrictions as possible.

The length of the course is approximately five miles, and the total distance of each race will be about 250 miles. With the exception of the section of the Promenade from the bottom of Summer Hill to the right-hand turn into Church Road, there are no very long, ultra-fast stretches, the object the R.A.C. having had in mind when selecting the course being to avoid giving any undue advantage to maximum speed alone.

Both of these races will be scratch events, and the principal features which will be required to secure a good performance will be skilful driving and good acceleration and brakes.



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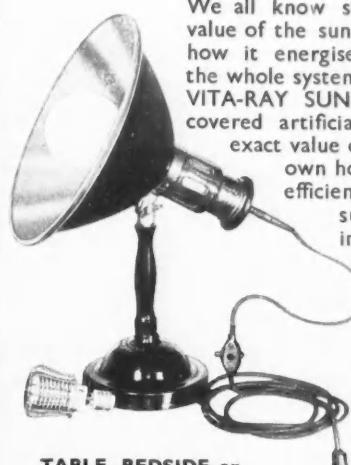
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WINTER SPORT IN ITALY



A VIEW OF CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, MONTE CRISTALLO IN THE BACKGROUND

MOST people, if asked to recommend a country for winter sports, would never dream of suggesting Italy, and yet some of the most delightful places for these sports are to be found in that beautiful land with which we associate winter sunshine and a genial climate. It must be remembered that the whole of the northern frontier of Italy is extremely mountainous and the famous Monte Rosa has been conquered on skis. In the Tridentine Venetia, that part of the Tirol which was re-acquired by Italy after the Great War, is situated the Dolomite region, which for beauty is unsurpassed. In winter these rocky and fantastic peaks take on colours of the most astonishing brightness and description by contrast with the snow, gleaming like marvellous jewels at sunrise and sunset. Most famous of the Dolomite resorts is Cortina d'Ampezzo, a charming little place with excellent hotels whose charges are extremely moderate. It lies at an altitude of 4,000ft., and is surrounded by fantastic peaks with ski-ing slopes suitable alike for novice and expert. A cable-way stretches to the snowfields of Pocol, another 1,000ft. higher, where a bob run begins. During the present winter championships and tests of ski-running and jumping and speed tests of slalom and bob-sleigh are to be held. Two delightful excursions from Cortina are to the two passes of Tre Croci and Falzarego, both of which give superb opportunities for ski-ers. In the Gardena valley, to the west of Cortina, which begins at Chiusa di Bressanone (formerly known as Klausen), on the Bolzano-Brennero line, is Ortisei, an excellent winter sports centre. Nowhere are the Dolomites more weird than at Ortisei, and on every side are crags and needles, pinnacles and precipices, whose colours are as striking as their shapes. Two other notable winter sports resorts are Madesimo and Montespluga, which can be reached by sleigh from St. Moritz in the Swiss Riviera via Maloja. The former is on the Spluga Pass, and its depth of snow and proximity to high mountains make it an excellent resort. There is a fine bob-sleigh run and easy ski tours can be made to the

Pass and to Lotta. The Pass itself is 6,845ft. up, and it should be remembered that for winter sports in Italy high altitudes are essential, so powerful are the sun's rays throughout the day.

Another district of Italy which is annually attracting more and more winter sport enthusiasts is Piedmont, which lies immediately across the French frontier at Modane. Clavières is, indeed, close to the frontier, and there are few winter resorts in Europe which can boast such surroundings and a situation so perfectly situated for winter sport. The road from Pinerolo—twenty-three miles from Turin—crosses the Collian Alps at the Pass of Sestrieres, which is 6,660ft. above sea level. Sestrieres has become enormously popular as a winter sport resort, thanks to the cable way which runs up Mont Alpette and to Mont Sises, which is at an altitude of 8,350ft. A new hotel, the Principi di Piemonte, is opening this winter and will be found the most sumptuous and comfortable hotel ever built at such a height.

At the Italian end of the Mont Cenis tunnel is Bardonecchia, which is 4,300ft. above sea level. At the end of

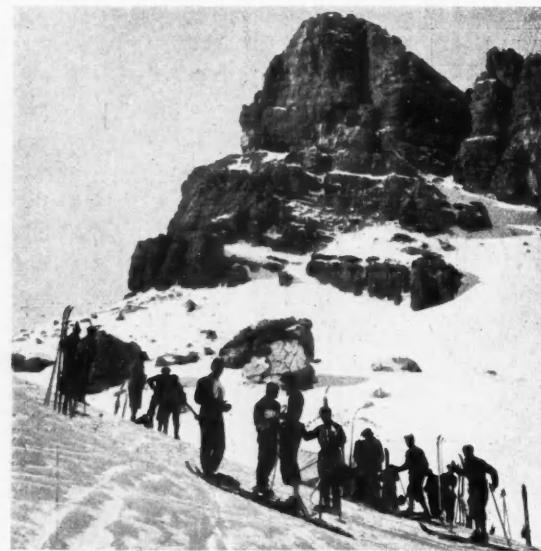
the present month the third International University Games are to be held here under the auspices of the Gruppi Universitari Fascisti. The programme will include ski-ing contests, skating competitions and ice hockey matches. Those competing and their friends will be allowed a 70 per cent. reduction on their rail tickets from the frontier, and these will be available after the conclusion of the Games to enable their holders to visit any part of Italy.

TRAVEL NOTES

THE two chief routes to the Dolomites are the Calais-Laon-Basle-Zürich-Innsbruck-Brenner Pass to Bolzano, and the Calais-Paris-Simplon-Milan-Venona-Trent to Bolzano. The Italian State Railways recently decided to accord a reduction of 50 per cent. on all ordinary fares on all return tickets booked at any station in Italy to Cortina d'Ampezzo during the winter sports season. English visitors will find the cost of the journey sensibly diminished by booking to the Italian frontier and then taking advantage of this 50 per cent. reduction. They can arrange this through Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son and other travel agencies.

Facilities for golfers have very much increased in Italy in recent years. On the Italian Riviera there are nine-hole courses at Bordighera and Rapallo and an excellent eighteen-hole course at San Remo. In the Dolomites, there are nine-hole courses at Madonna di Campiglio, Mendola and Merano, and an eighteen-hole course at Carezza al Lago. There is a nine-hole course at Clavières and at the Lido, Venice; while on the island of Brioni, which can easily be reached by sea from Venice, is a fine eighteen-hole course, open all the year round. Another nine-hole course is to be found at Ormanoro, three miles from Florence, and an eighteen-hole course is just outside Rome close to the Via Appia. Within twenty minutes from Palermo in Sicily there is a nine-hole course at Mondello. In the Italian Lake district there are courses at Stresa and Pallanza on Lake Maggiore; Menaggio and Villa d'Este on Lake Como; Brescia, near Lake Iseo; and at Gardone on Lake Garda. The Milan golf links, thirty minutes by car from the city, is to be extended from nine to eighteen holes in the near future.

The only places in Europe where sea and sun bathing can be indulged in with pleasure throughout the winter are the island of Capri in the Bay of Naples, Taormina on the east coast of Sicily, and at Siracusa, which is in the south of that island.



SKI-ING IN THE DOLOMITES
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NEW AND RARE PLANTS

SHOWING a relationship, both botanically and horticulturally, with the Chinese *Lilium ochraceum* on the one hand and the Himalayan *L. nepalense* on the other, the lily introduced by Farrer in 1919 from Upper Burma, and in the same year by Forrest from Yunnan, and named a few years ago by Professor Sir W. W. Smith *L. nepalense* var. *burmanicum*, may be justifiably regarded as affording a definite link in a series of lilies which has at one end the hardy *L. ochraceum*, with typical Martagon-like flowers, from the drier mountain ranges of western China; and at the other the tener trumpet-shaped *L. nepalense* from the moister regions of the central and western Himalayas. The forms of this variety vary enormously both in stem and foliage characters as well as in flower colour, showing all gradations between thin and very long, almost grass-like, leaves carried on somewhat scabrous stems, to firm, lanceolate 3 to 5 nerved leaves clothing smooth and shiny stems, with flowers ranging in colour from a dull olive yellow with both interior and exterior flushed with a deep purple, to clear yellow flowers with only the lower part of the interior heavily blotched with purple maroon. As is, perhaps, to be expected from its geographical range, there is also a variation in its height in the wild from some four feet in the case of the Forrest plants to seven feet in Farrer's Burmese form, which is that shown in the accompanying illustration, where it is seen growing well in the rock-house at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh. In the form and size of the flowers it reveals its close kinship with *L. nepalense*, but shows the recurring of the perianth segments that is so diagnostic a character in typical *L. ochraceum*. Horticulturally, too, it seems to stand midway between the two, being less hardy than *L. ochraceum* and of harder constitution than *L. nepalense*, and, when comfortably placed, shows a tendency to run, as may be noticed in the accompanying illustration, that is a feature of *L. taliense* and *L. Duchartrei* Farrer. In the Lily Year Book Major Stern records that he grew Farrer's form successfully outside in his garden at Hightown for a few years in a warm and well drained position, until it succumbed to a frost of 20° Fahr.; and there seems no reason why, in favoured gardens in the south and west, and given a warm position, say, in a border at the foot of a south wall, that might also suit *L. macrophyllum*, it should not be trusted to give a good account of itself and to come through ordinary winters. With the protection of a cloche during severe frosts it should be perfectly safe. Like *L. ochraceum*, it is easily raised from seed, and is certainly a lily worth trying by the connoisseur; and where it cannot be relied on to succeed outside it can be given a place in a cool house where it will flower in June or early July.

G. C. T.

NEW NEPAL MECONOPSIS

HORTICULTURAL discovery in Nepal has brought many interesting and attractive plants to our gardens in the last three or four years, and it is no reflection on many of the other new arrivals to say that probably none has excited greater interest in inner horticultural circles than the additions to the ranks of the primula, gentian and meconopsis families. So far exploration has yielded four new meconopsis as well as the true purple form of *M. grandis*, which, from its behaviour in gardens last year, is quite distinct from the beautiful blue Sikkim form which has for so long proved a most exasperating plant in the hands of those gardeners fortunate enough to possess it. Of the newcomers the distinguished *M. regia*, which flowered for the first time two years ago, has settled down so comfortably in cultivation that its seed is offered in this year's seed lists—an indication that it promises to be permanent in our gardens. It is quite a handsome plant with its tall impressive stems hung with lovely yellow poppy-like blossoms rising from beautiful silky leaf rosettes that are singularly attractive all through the winter, and it seems more accommodating in its ways than many of the



LILIUM NEPALENSE VAR. BURMANICUM

race, and seeds freely. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for *M. auriculata*, which resembles somewhat the well known *M. betonicifolia* in its general characters, but differs in retaining its leaves all through the winter, and in the pale primrose or almost white flowers. A distinct and lovely poppy, it seems destined to make slow progress in cultivation unless it can be induced to seed with any freedom. Last summer the other two, *Meconopsis Dhwojii* and *M. longipetiolata*, flowered for the first time, and if neither seems likely to grip the popular imagination in the way of *M. Baileyi* or *integerrima*, both are distinct and attractive species that claim recognition from the connoisseur. The former, shown in the accompanying illustration—where it is seen in flower in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh—is quite an unmistakable plant with its elegant, finely cut leaves and stems densely clothed with hairs and rust-coloured spots, and its generous profusion of yellow blossoms that spring from the upper and lower leaves in single and branching inflorescences. *M. longipetiolata* is best described as a miniature *M. paniculata*, a dainty and graceful plant with elegant and very finely cut fern-like foliage, and less robust than its taller cousin. Both species gave quite a good account of themselves last year in gardens where they were tried, and if they seem better suited to conditions in Scottish gardens, judging by their free growth and flowering qualities, they are only following in the wake of most of their race as well as the majority of gentians and primulas, which take more kindly to the moist atmosphere of the north than to the dry and sunny summer conditions of southern gardens. T.



THE NEW YELLOW-FLOWERED MECONOPSIS DHWOJII FROM NEPAL
A colony in thin woodland shade in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

The new season's seed catalogues issued by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh, and Messrs. Webbs of Stourbridge, are both such interesting and comprehensive lists that no gardener should neglect to obtain a copy of each. In Messrs. Dobbie's catalogue there is a large section describing all the novelties of recent introduction, and, in addition, seeds of many species of lilies are offered, and a large number of sweet pea varieties in which they specialise. Both catalogues are well illustrated, and the numerous plant descriptions are supplemented by short cultural notes. They will be found invaluable guides to have for reference purposes with the opening of another seed-sowing season only a few weeks ahead.



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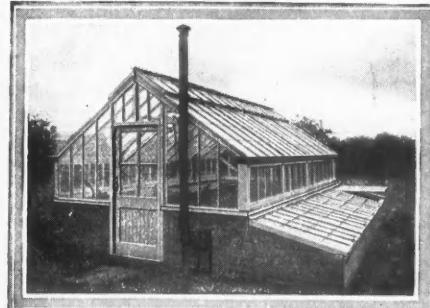
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THE LADIES' FIELD

The Woollen Frock for Morning or Afternoon: Fringe Returns to Favour

AMONG the delightful woollen frocks from the showrooms of Debenham and Freebody, Limited, Wigmore Street, are the two shown on this page. Both are composed of the ultra-fashionable Angora, which is so popular just now and so delightfully soft and comfortable. The one which is buttoned across the corsage in a bias line is of sorrel green Angora, with a scarf collar designed in crinkled silk, in black, red, white and green. These scarf collars are immensely valuable from the point of view of trimming, as any colours can be introduced in this way as a decorative finish, and whether with a black gown or one in colour they are equally in evidence.

The other dress shown on this page is in a colour which, if not so generally becoming as green, is nevertheless ideal for a brunette. It is the shade known as "brick," and as a little morning frock to wear either in the house or else under a coat it is warm, cosy and cheering on the dark days of January. The simplicity of this little frock, which pouches



A MAGPIE HAT, FROM PETER ROBINSON'S

over the belt, is very attractive, the only decorations being a big rever embroidered with serried lines of red and white angora wool and round steel buttons.

In the centre is a *toilette* from Marshall and Snelgrove, Limited, Vere Street and Oxford Street, which shows the vogue for silk fringe. In this case the silk forms the trimming of a gown of nigger silk-crêpe, while it is accompanied by a coat in nigger suède cloth with brown fox collar and a nigger velvet hat to match. By the by, the winter sale at these salons began on December 29th and continues till January 28th. It is, of course, one of the best opportunities of the sale season, and the bargains offered this year, particularly evening dresses and gowns, are quite extraordinary.

Paris greatly approves of ermine, and the snowy softness of ermine tails tipped with black makes a very attractive trimming to the hat illustrated, which is of glossy black panne, from the showrooms of Peter Robinson, Ltd., Oxford Street, W.1. An ornament catches the fur and provides a contrast.

KATHLEEN M. BARROW.



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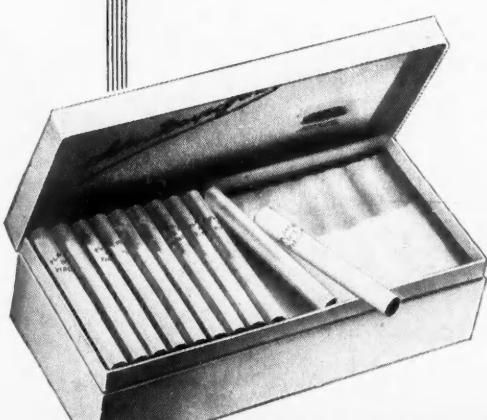
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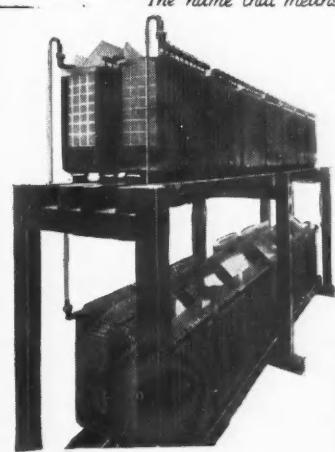
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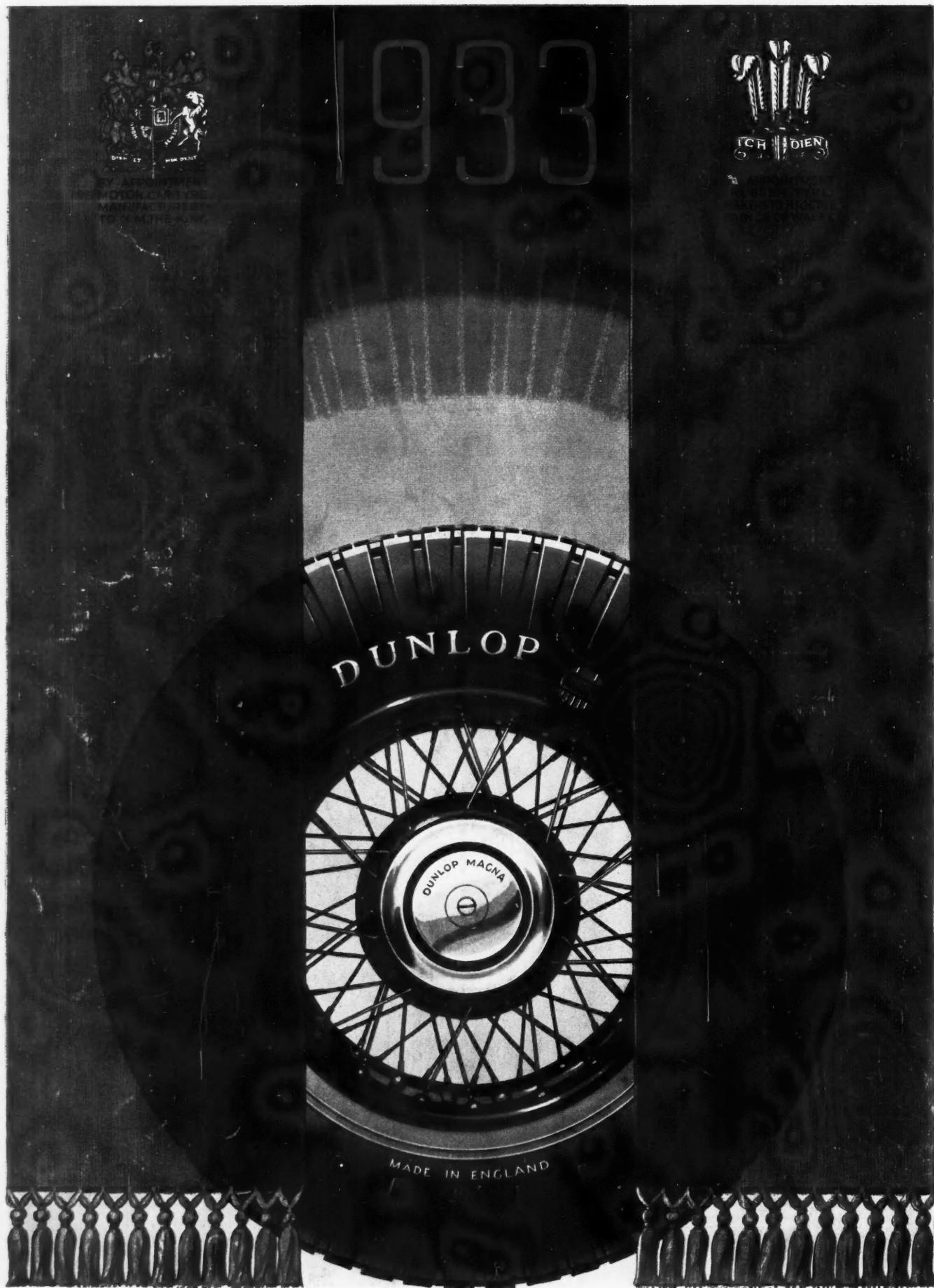
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